December 21, 2000
Issue No. 16
48 Pages
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ANDOVER TOWNSMAN

Our 113th Year

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Season of Smiles

At left, the Gaspar family – mom Heather, dad Joe, and daughters Alexandra and Olivia – plays Mary, Joseph, an angel and the baby Jesus at West Parish Church's Christmas pageant. Andover Christians are preparing for Christmas, which arrives Monday, while elsewhere in Andover...

...such as at the Temple Emanuel preschool, Jewish residents including young Dana Mandell and Benzi Edelson are ready to celebrate the Festival of Lights, Hanukkah. The eight-day commemoration begins tonight, Thursday, Dec. 21, at sundown.

Schools construction progressing

Safety center slow-going

By Rebecca Piro

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Smoked out in Andover?

By Adam Groff

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(Continued on page 6)

Four More Days

Photo by Tim Jean

Molly Awiszus tells Santa her last-minute wishes. For more about those who help fulfill wishes, or make the holiday season brighter, see Living, pages 25 and 26.

Girls are outperforming boys at school — Why?

Where the boys aren't

By Adam Groff

Recently, 48 Andover High School Students were inducted into the National Honor Society. Thirty-seven of them were girls.

Of the 33 existing members at the time, 20 were girls.

Of the Andover High students who achieved honors or high honors for the first term this fall, 576 were girls and 482 were boys. In the high-honors category alone, the margin was wider. Girls attaining high honors outnumbered boys in all grades by an average ratio of about three to two.

What accounts for this discrepancy? It's certainly not because there are more girls than boys at the school. Currently, there are 800 girls at AHS and 825 boys.

The *Townsman* asked a number of administrators, teachers and students what they thought about these numbers. Many were not surprised.

Principal Peter Anderson, who is in his first year at AHS, said that he remembered a greater number of girls in the NHS at his previous post in Illinois, and he said with regard to the possibility of a trend showing higher female

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TownTalk

Photo by Tim Jean

Angela Lei forms a snowman on Bartlet Street. With fresh snow blanketing Andover in more of the white stuff Wednesday morning, some residents were beginning to form visions of a white Christmas.

100 years and counting

Amid balloons and Christmas carols, Mildred Deering celebrated her 100th birthday on Wednesday, Dec. 13 at Wingate Nursing Home.

Local musician Denise Doucette strummed a guitar and led the assembled group of residents in Christmas sing-alongs as employees served refreshments.

Deering came to Wingate, at 80 Andover St., in 1998 after spending her whole life in Gloucester.

Deering was unable to comment, but her daughter, Elinor Deering of Reading, said that she is the oldest of her four siblings, all brothers, and she has survived them all.

She has two children, two grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Deering is said to take delight in piano socials and children. For part of her life she worked at Filene's in Boston, and she is very fond of sewing, her father having been a tailor in Gloucester, according to her daughter.

— *Adam Groff*

Photo by Tim Jean

Mildred Deering on her day.

News In Brief

Shepley residents still looking for place to turn

Once again, frustrated residents of Shepley Street piled into a crowded selectmen's meeting Monday night to bring their concerns before the board – issues they said the town has neglected for too long.

Their complaints centered around a strip of road called Chickering Way, located off Union Street, that crosses the Andover-Lawrence boundary.

Because neither town will claim the road, Shepley Street residents said they cannot find anyone to prevent their neighbor, a commercial business owner just over the line in Lawrence, from crossing Chickering Way and using residential Shepley Street property for customer parking.

Several residents said they have contacted the selectmen, Building Inspector Kaija Gilmore, and other town officials multiple times, with less than satisfactory results. "We do have a problem of neglect on Andover's part," said David Welsh of 5 Shepley St.

Not only is it illegal to use residential land for commercial uses, argued the residents, but the customers parking on Shepley Street are reducing the value of the residential land.

Selectmen promised to contact the state about identifying an owner for Chickering Way, so that Shepley Street residents will at least know where to direct their complaints.

"I think we do still need to be forceful about not allowing commercial use on (residential) property," Selectman John Hess said.

— Rebecca Piro

Web question

Last week's *Townsman* Web-site question was: What should be done about the downtown lighting in future years? Of 46 respondents, 17, or 37 percent, said "The town should pay for it with tax money." The second and third options each received 13 votes, or 28 percent. They were, "Businesses should pay for it," and "There should be a voluntary collection, contributed to by residents and businesses." Three people, or seven percent, said "The town should not allow lights linked to a religious holiday on its trees."

This week's question is: **Should Andover ban smoking in bars?**

To cast a vote, surf to <www.andover-townsman.com>.

Additional road patrols planned for season

As residents plan for their holiday parties, they might also want to plan on driving responsibly. Andover police and the state Highway Dept. will be cracking down on those drinking and driving during the holiday season.

Nancy J. Luther, executive director of the Governor's Highway Safety Bureau, has presented Sgt. Barbara Connolly of the Andover Police Department with a $6,000 grant award to fund additional patrols to enforce state laws involving speeding, impaired driving, and safety-belt and child safety-seat use.

The Andover police will start additional traffic enforcement during this holiday season, and continue it through September.

Police "strongly urge" those using Andover roads to heed posted speed limits, to plan extra travel time during the holiday season to account for traffic, not to drink and drive, and to make sure everyone is buckled up, says Lt. Anthony Ricci.

Photo by Tim Jean

Big presence — Barbara Connolly and her fellow Andover police plan on using a state check from Highway Safety Bureau Director Nancy Luther to make a noticable impact on the roads.

News Calendar

Thursday, Dec. 21

Merrimack Valley Planning Commission, 160 Main St. Haverhill, 8 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 2

Andover School Committee, town offices, School Committee room, 7:30 p.m. *Televised.*

Conservation Commission, town offices, third-floor conference room, 7:45 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 3

School Building Committee, town offices, selectmen's conference room, 6 p.m.

Ballardvale Historic District Commission, town offices, second-floor conference room, 7 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 4

Andover Contributory Retirement Board, town offices, third-floor conference room, 8:30 a.m.

Zoning Board of Appeals, regular meeting, town offices, second-floor conference room, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 6

Zoning Board of Appeals, deliberation meeting, Memorial Hall Library, second-floor, 9 a.m.

Monday, Jan. 8

Redistricting Task Force, town offices, school committee room, 7:30 p.m.

Quote, unquote . . .

"It's discouraging, but we're not disheartened. I do not want to compromise the integrity of this expansion. The right thing to do for the community and the students is to rebid the project. I want that extra gym, I want that media center, and I want those science labs. Those kids deserve that."

Greater Lawrence Technical High School Superintendent Frank Vacirca on the decision to rebid the school's expansion project. (Story, page 7.)

"Tony is going to have a few more gray hairs, and Buzz too. But I'm doing my darnedest to make the transition as smooth as possible."

Management Analyst Peter Johnson-Staub, talking about his decision to leave his town position and take up employment in Yarmouth, Mass. (Story, page 15.)

"Once it's up and people can use it, they'll say, 'How did we ever live without this?' "

Sharon Britton, on the hockey rink facility proposed for Phillips. (Story, page 4.)

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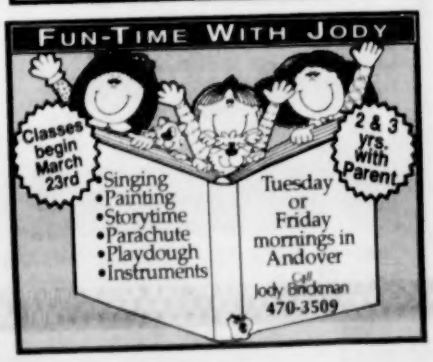

For hockey rink project

Phillips grad donates $2 million, donation must be matched

By Rebecca Piro

Phillips Academy announced Monday that Ted Forstmann, Class of 1957, businessman and philanthropist, will donate $2 million to the construction of the school's new hockey rinks.

However, the giver of the sizable donation did not want the spotlight on himself.

"He does not want to be interviewed," said Tana Sherman, director of public information. "He's a very quiet-spoken man."

So humble, it seems, that he specifically requested that the rinks be named after two of PA's legendary athletic figures.

One condition of the $2 million gift is that PA must name the new facility after the late Fred "Ted" Harrison, Class of 1938, who was a beloved coach, teacher and athletic director, says Sherman. The school will also name the training room inside the facility for the late John "Jake" Bronk, a sports trainer and physical therapist.

The double-rink project was approved by the Planning Board last month and will replace the school's single outdoor rink.

The final condition on Forstmann's gift is that parents, alumni and friends make up the last $2 million needed, a dollar for dollar match.

"We don't do many of these challenge grants... and it is a wonderful opportunity to bring other alums into supporting it financially, too," said Sharon Britton, director of communications. "Now it's just up to the rest of us to bring in the final funding."

While raising money is always a challenge, Britton said that Forstmann's gift will make the job much easier.

"It's a really wonderful donation that has given us the ability to finish up the funding for this project. It's a pretty big job. We'll continue to raise the money, but this is a challenge gift that he made to encourage other alums to bring in the rest of the funding on the project. Until you have (the funding) you never know that you do, but there's a lot of alums really interested in supporting hockey," added Britton.

"It's the alumni who have made this rink happen," said Athletics Director Martha Fenton. "The people who are funding the rink are doing so because their own athletic experience at Andover was so positive. It's just a wonderful message to today's athletes."

The rinks project is part of a bigger six-year fund-raising push called the Andover Campaign, an effort to raise $200 million in six years for the school's endowment, campus improvements and renovations. In the midst of the campaign's fifth year, PA has raised $140 million of that goal so far, said Sherman. With Forstmann's gift, the school has $6 million of the $8 million it needs to construct the hockey facility.

"This is just going to be a wonderful facility for the whole area," said Britton. "Once it's up and people can use it, they'll say, 'How did we ever live without this?' "

Ironstone farm receives cornerstone award

On the recommendation of State Representative Barry Finegold, AT&T has awarded Challenge Unlimited Inc. its AT&T Community Service Cornerstone Award with a check for $5,000.

According to Susan Ramsey, director of New England Public Relations, AT&T awards this grant in recognition of the outstanding programs and services Challenge Unlimited provides as a foundation, or "cornerstone" to the local communities

"AT&T (is) committed to making programs like (Challenge Unlimited) accessible to a broad spectrum of society in order to promote a spirit of community, diversity and equal opportunity," she said.

The programs at Ironstone Farm provide physical, cognitive and emotional therapies to people with disabilities, using horses in an included working farm environment. About 450 individuals from the Merrimack Valley and surrounding communities are served each week, year round.

In December, 1999, the Challenge Unlimited Board of Directors began a capital campaign for the acquisition and preservation of Ironstone Farm. The board has raised $500,000 of the $600,000 needed to initiate the acquisition.

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Task force deems them solution to traffic problem, along with I-93 ramp

Benches, trees, lights, sidewalks proposed for Ballardvale

By Rebecca Piro

Ballardvale Task Force members hope that the Ballardvale Village Improvement Plan, almost three-quarters of the way completed, will slow the high speeds of traffic rushing though the village's small streets. But the solution to reducing Ballardvale's traffic volume may lie in the potential construction of a ramp to Interstate 93, says one town official.

The creation of the master plan began when 1999 Town Meeting granted $40,000 to residents for a traffic-improvement study, says task force member Chris Huntress.

Commuter traffic had risen to a dangerous level on Ballardvale's small, historic streets with the expansion of Genetics Institute on Burtt Road, he says.

"We get much more traffic than was ever intended for these streets," says Huntress. "We've got very congested traffic, and we've also got very dangerous speed levels."

Ballardvale residents do not want to use typical traffic calming devices, such as widening the roads or adding traffic signals, which they believe would detract from the area, says Huntress. Instead, the task force and Copley/Wolff, a Boston urban-landscaping design firm, put together a plan to widen sidewalks, enhance crosswalks and add trees, benches and ornamental light fixtures.

While these changes appear to be directed mostly at pedestrians, they actually slow down the oncoming traffic, by visually reducing the driver's sense of the road, says landscape architect Sean Sanger.

"(As) the feeling of the street (narrows), the driver has a tendency to slow down," unlike on the wide-open roads of a highway where drivers often push the speed limit, says Sanger.

"Those are traffic-calming elements, and they do have impacts on speed and volume," says Huntress. "They bring the scale of the roadways down to a pedestrian level."

Huntress hopes that the vehicles will slow down so much that they will get discouraged from driving through Ballardvale.

"If we can slow them down long enough, then hopefully it will convince them (to go another way)," he says.

But it will take more than village streetscape changes to force commuters to change their habits, says Planning Director Steve Colyer.

A temporary ramp onto I-93 near Genetics Institute could potentially reduce traffic volume a significant amont, he says.

About a year ago, Genetics funded a conceptual study to see if the concept was a feasible one. The Federal Highway Administration agreed that a ramp was possible, and now the town must ask Genetics whether it can use the study as the basis for a ramp application to the state.

The ramp would function until additions on the Route-125 interchange, designed to allow more traffic into I-93, are completed, which is a minimum of five to eight years down the road, says Colyer.

"The ramps (at the Route-125 interchange) that are there right now don't have the capacity to handle the traffic, which is why people get off at Dascomb Road," Colyer says.

If the new ramp was built, Colyer thinks it would still be a challenge to get commuters to use the ramp, rather than their usual cut-throughs, he adds.

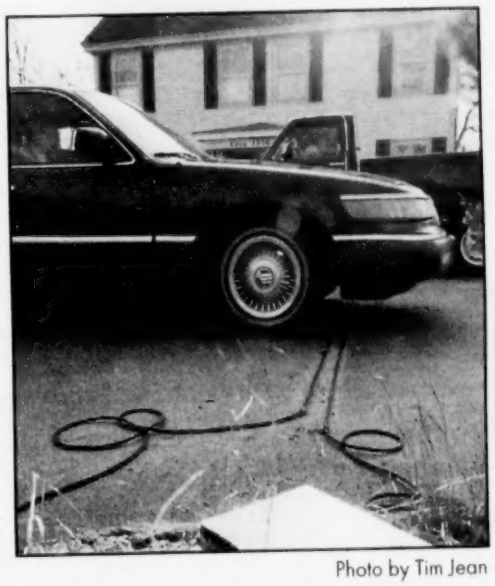

Photo by Tim Jean

Counting cars — Traffic remains an issue in Ballardvale.

Huntress agrees that the I-93 ramp would ease Ballardvale's congestion, but he is not sure whether the ramp will become a reality.

"We can push as hard as we want to try and get things through, but in the end it is Mass. Highway's decision," he says.

Ballardvale task force members will present the master plan at a public meeting sometime in January, Huntress says. That will be the last meeting where residents can contribute their ideas before the plan is finished.

"If you have issues in Ballardvale," he says, "this is the time to come in and express your view, because we can incorporate those into the master plan

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Snuffing out cigarettes?

(Continued from page 1)

Pub, is exempt from the bylaw.

According to Health Director Everett Penney, the new regulations would eliminate all smoking in those places, and it would also remove the two cigarette machines in town, one at the Park Street Pub and one at Grill 93 on River Road. In addition, the regulation would establish a local license for tobacco sales, and increase the penalties for sale of tobacco to minors.

"This is just a further refinement of our existing tobacco bylaw," said Penney. "It's an attempt to plug some holes."

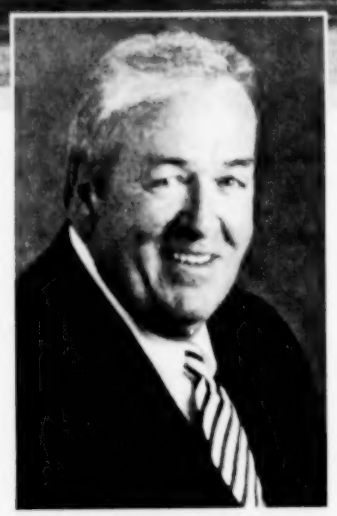
Diane Pickles, director of the Healthy Communities program, which is based in Andover and represents five other surrounding communities, said the Healthy Communities survey was sent out earlier this year to a randomized 10 percent of registered voters in Andover. There was about a 35 percent response rate, or 740 responses. Overall, just under 78 percent of respondents said they would prefer regulation making restaurants in Andover 100 percent smoke-free. Almost 20 percent said they would prefer separate but enclosed smoking areas, and only 2.6 percent said they would prefer smoking throughout restaurants.

But the opinion of patrons at Justin's of Andover and the Park Street Pub was more evenly divided, or even skewed away from the idea of regulation.

"I agree that smoking is bad," said bartender Bob Riordan of Justin's of Andover. "But there are nonsmoking bars in Andover people can go to. Nonsmokers know this is a smoking bar, and they don't have to come here. It's not like a convenience store or a supermarket, where people have to come in. People don't have to come in here."

Ann Schuft, who was enjoying a hamburger at Justin's, had a different opinion. She said she recently moved to Andover from Acton, which enacted a townwide smoking ban similar to the one proposed in Andover. "We're friends with a pub owner in Acton," she said, "and he was terrified that business would be hurt. But business actually got better, because people came in that wouldn't have otherwise. It's hard to have to decide where you're going to go because of air quality."

"I'd say 50 percent of my customers only smoke when they're drinking," said Riordan. "They come here so they can do that. I don't know why the town has to tell the owners how to run their businesses."



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Bids are 10 percent higher than estimated

Technical School expansion delayed, project to be re-bid

By Adam Groff

Students at Greater Lawrence Technical High School can stop wondering where their classes will be held in January, because Superintendent Frank Vacirca announced Wednesday that the school's $51 million expansion and renovation project will be rebid starting early next year.

School officials had hoped to hire a contractor this month and break ground on the construction project in January, but Vacirca's announcement today said that the lowest bid was 10.4 percent over the school's budget, and Vacirca is not willing to ask for more money for the project. He said that rebidding should begin by early to mid-spring, with groundbreaking thereby delayed until late spring or early summer.

"I think that taxpayers in all four communities (that GLTS serves) have been supportive, and they've been generous," said Vacirca of the $51 million budget approved by the towns of Andover, Lawrence, North Andover, and Methuen, "and I don't want to impose any more burden on them than necessary. They have their own building projects."

Students had been waiting to hear about the location of temporary facilities in which some classes will be held after construction starts. All that is on hold now, according to Vacirca. "Their challenges are going to come a little later than expected," he said of the temporary student dislocation, which is expected to last about four years.

Vacirca said that the vast renovation project, which is supposed to add 93,000 square feet to the school and update its facilities, was born after the last accreditation by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges five years ago. "We passed with distinction," asserted Vacirca, "but they recommended that we expand."

So the following year, a new building expansion committee conducted a needs assessment on the school based on demographics and community needs, and put into motion plans to redesign the school, he said. It then waited two more years for approval from both the state, which will reimburse 86 percent of the cost of the project, and the surrounding communities, which will cover the other 14 percent, each community in proportion to the number of students it has at the school. Only 13 students from Andover are currently enrolled at GLTS.

The school then hired architects Drumney, Rosann, and Anderson to design the expansion, and it began searching for temporary facilities for its students. A lease on temporary facilities had not yet been signed when this latest roadblock appeared.

Vacirca said that the project is being overseen by consultants URS O'Brien Kreitzberg, who approved the architects' plans and the budget.

"They said it was okay, the plans were okay and the price was okay," said Vacirca. "The bids were too high."

He said that the low bidder of the project was TLT Construction Corp. of Wakefield.

"It's discouraging, but we're not disheartened," said Vacirca. "I do not want to compromise the integrity of this expansion. The right thing to do for the community and the students is to rebid the project. I want that extra gym, I want that media center, and I want those science labs. Those kids deserve that."

Vacirca stated that he does not want to change the plans for the project, and that he hopes the construction market changes between now and the rebidding. However, he stated in a release that it will be necessary for the project architects to redesign the project to fit the budget.

File photo by Lisa Adelsberger

Greater Lawrence Technical School construction project will be delayed as the project is rebid.

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Commuters: Changes for Northern Ave. bridge

The Coast Guard proposes changing the operating rules governing the Northern Avenue Bridge, mile 0.0, across the Fort Point Channel in Boston, revising the drawbridge operating regulations to provide bridge openings during times the bridge previously did not open and also place the bridge on an advance-notice basis during times when there have been few requests to open it.

Written comments must be submitted on or before Jan. 8 and mailed to: Commander (obr), First Coast Guard District, 408 Atlantic Ave., Boston, MA 02110-3350.

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Townsman EDITORIALS

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Treasure the season of gifts – and the giving

There are a number of Andover people who help embody the spirit of giving, not just at this time of year, but throughout the year.

Jaime Sloan, a sophomore at Andover High, for instance, has started a program called Andover Youth in Action.

The program, designed by High School students, created a "curriculum of community service" for middle-school kids.

Recently, students in the program put together gift baskets that they brought to the children's ward of Lawrence General Hospital, for kids who will spend the holidays there.

"What I really wanted to do was to get the kids in the town of Andover involved in community services at a younger age," says Sloan. "A lot of them are used to giving things, but I wanted them to appreciate some of the work that goes into giving, so they could see some of the direct effect they have.

"I don't think we encourage younger kids to get involved in community service as young as we should."

The kids in AYIA are the type of people that make Andover a community.

In the paper this week, you'll find other people who give of themselves, both on this page, and in the Living section.

We wish happy holidays to those who give of themselves, those who need, and those who are inspired by these stories. Hopefully, we all can take something of their message into the new year.

Letters policy

The *Townsman* accepts letters to the editor from the community.

Letters must be typed, and no longer than two, double-spaced pages. All letter writers must include an address and phone number with the letter. The phone number will not be published.

The paper reserves the right to edit letters at its discretion. Reasons for editing include editing for length, clarity and style.

Letters should be received by the *Townsman* by Monday at 5 p.m. for consideration in that week's paper. They may be sent by mail, fax or e-mail.

As a general rule, the paper does not publish anonymous letters or thank you letters.

It also does not publish letters for candidates in the issue prior to an election.

Photo by Tim Jean

Uplifting — Rabbi Robert Goldstein lifts Tamra Rutfield to light a candle in observance of the first night of Hanukkah. Hanukkah begins tonight, Thursday, at sundown.

Kid's unique gift makes the season bright

Neil Fater

Photos by Tim Jean

Hand in hand— With or without their bracelets, Kate and Molly share a friendship.

Giving spirit — Pike students Kate Rokos and Molly Cikacz rose to the occasion, for a worthy cause.

Kate Rokos' birthday is Christmas Day. Considering she's an elementary-school kid, you'd think that Kate would view her Christmas birthday as the ultimate day for getting loot.

But when Kate thinks of days when she gets great boxes of presents, it's conceivable that she thinks of Dec. 16 instead.

That's because Kate has cystic fibrosis, and every year her friend Molly Cikacz tells people coming to her birthday party Dec. 16 to give money to cure the disease, rather than buying her a present. In a box, Molly collects a stack of checks made out to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

Both Kate and Molly are active, outgoing fifth-graders at Pike School in Andover. But Kate has cystic fibrosis, and Molly does not — and both girls would prefer that they had their health in common, too.

That's why Molly started her effort about five years ago, after her parents threw a large birthday/Christmas party for her. Although they asked guests not to bring gifts, no one wanted to arrive empty-handed.

"When we started doing this I got like 52 Barbie dolls. My parents got a lot of wine. People still wanted to give something," says Molly.

So the next year, Molly's parents, Chris and Michael, asked her to pick a charity people could give to, in lieu of presents. Molly thought of her friend Kate, who takes cystic fibrosis in stride, according to Kate's mom Meg, but who also must take 24 pills and physical therapy every day to do so.

Molly had seen the energetic Kate go to the school nurse every day, and go to the hospital frequently to treat her congenital disease and respiratory infections.

So she decided to raise money to cure Kate's illness, and soon set a goal of raising $10,000 by the time she reaches eighth grade.

"It impacted her that way. From six years old, she was absolutely convinced that she could cure this," says

Letters

Downtown light bulb: An idea to solve things

Editor, *Townsman:*

In response to the interest for the lighting for downtown, I think I may have a solution. If all of the businesses, including offices in town, each bought one set of lights, I think it would more than cover the cost for the lights. The lights then could be put up by the maintenance crews that put up flags for other holidays, and stored in the town maintenance department.

I know there are other costs to this project, and I'm sure the people that care would help defray some of this cost to make the downtown look festive and jolly for the holiday season.

I would be glad to recruit and help in getting this project ready for next year.

Stephanie Cutler
Andover resident
Business owner (On the Nail)

Ode to a downtown lighting solution

Editor, *Townsman:*

Here are some thoughts on downtown Christmas lights:

It's time to unite say Bush and Gore,
A theme this town has heard before.
The subject is our Christmas lights,
Which brighten up a starless night.
The beauty of this great endeavor
Warms so many hearts forever.

Please dear merchants and town leaders,
Take the time to check your meters.
Time is running out for you
To make our town a joyous view.
We will thank you when we meet
On our sparkling downtown street.

Suzanne Sherman
3 Midland Circle

Waxing poetic over meaning of Christmas

Editor, *Townsman:*

Thought you might use my original piece on Christmas:

The eternal Christmas star shining brightly and beckoning. The hushed silent and holy night as the first snow blankets the earth. The single, white candle welcoming the babe. The majestic chain ringing church bells, grandly tolling and proclaiming that the time has arrived.

The carols, the greetings and merriment of good cheer to one and all. The multi-colored lights of homes and parks, gaily festooned and welcoming him.

The anxious children, trying to be good, while laughter and wondrous awe bubbles up. The adults with mixed emotions from the past, but enjoying the happiness that surrounds them. The music, carols, choirs, cymbals and drums proclaiming the coming.

What is it all about? Who is coming and why? It's a birthday party for a sweet baby, one who is destined to become the King of Kings and the savior of mankind.

Happy birthday, happy birthday, dear Jesus, happy birthday to you. Yes, it's Christmas!

Jim Cassidy
North Andover

Scouts open to all boys, victim of political correctness

Editor, *Townsman:*

In response to the letter from Michael J. Byrne published in the *Townsman* on Dec. 7, I would like to speak to the value of the Boy Scout organization and appeal to moderation before condemning the Boy Scout organization for upholding its standards of membership.

I have been a parent volunteer in the Boy Scouts for the last four years. My perception and stereotyped thinking about the Boy Scouts has changed considerably as I have experienced the organization first-hand. The Boy Scouts offer a safe place for kids to be together and hang out. I have enjoyed watching late-night card games at camp, polar bear swims, philosophical discussions around the campfire, troop competitions, and general goofing around in a safe and fun environment. Many of these experiences cannot be duplicated elsewhere and will have a lifelong impact on the boys.

Scouting is open to all boys, including kids from divorced families, single parent kids, and other kids who have had some hard knocks in their lives. The adult leaders I have had the privilege of working with have been sensitive and nurturing to all of the boys, regardless of the boy's background and circumstances. Imagine the impact a concerned, adult man can have on the life of a fatherless boy! It is one of the few places where a kid who might not fit in elsewhere has a chance to participate and contribute.

In addition, the boys are introduced to community service, citizenship, first aid, life-saving, mentoring younger scouts, cooking, camping, and backpacking, to name a few of thee activities under the care of volunteer, adult role models. Fast forward to 20 years from now and these are the men who will be active in their community, getting involved, helping others.

The portrayal of the Boy Scout organization as "excluding gay youth" is twisting the truth. We are talking about boys aged 11 to 17, sixth-graders through seniors in high school. What is the meaning of "gay youth" in this age range? The Boy Scout policy regarding sexual activity is abstinence. That is not to say that kids don't break the rules, it is just a statement of what the rule is. A troubled youth, wondering if he is gay or otherwise, will not be hounded out of the organization. Although the Boy Scouts are not a counseling agency and do not replace parents' responsibilities for caring for their children's needs, the BSA does have a child-psychology referral service available.

It is ironic that the Boy Scouts, an organization truly open to all boys, is portrayed as exclusionary. Membership standards are not exclusionary. Imagine our society if each of us, as individuals, held in esteem being trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean and reverent. These elements of character sound quaint to our ears and are easy to mock, but these are legitimate ideals and values men should aspire to. Please note that these ideals are inconsistent with homophobia or any other form of discrimination or harassment of any group.

The Boy Scouts are branded as exclusionary because the constituents of character are taboo subjects in today's public discourse, particularly regarding standards of morality.

Political correctness has shifted the meaning of tolerance from "I respectfully disagree with your view but I will live with it" to "I may not agree but I embrace and affirm your position anyway." As a result, we are silent when institutions like the Boy Scouts are unfairly characterized. We are silent because we fear being accused of intolerance!

Please balance your considerations when contemplating and support of the Boy Scouts. It is an organization which provides a safe place for boys and activities which serve the community, and develop life skills and character that we need for our future.

Paul Domigan
120 Chestnut St.

Honoring those who served, and still do

Editor, *Townsman:*

Monday night, Dec. 18, the Board of Selectmen, the Veteran's Division and the Council on Aging recognized two Andover veterans for their contributions to the community and the country.

Leo Doherty, a Marine Corps veteran of World War II and Korea, will be moving to New Hampshire soon with his wife Grace. The town bid them farewell with deep gratitude for both military service and community service.

Oscar Rosenberg, a World War II veteran, was presented with a special commendation from the French government for his duty at Normandy. Later Oscar went on to serve at the liberation of Buchenwald, but Monday night he was honored by France and Andover expressly for his part in the Normandy invasion.

It occurs to me that we can perhaps never display our gratitude for their efforts during the war, if only because we will never know the extent of their personal sacrifice to keep our country free. The one will always outweigh the other.

While they did not serve together in the war, they have served the community of Andover well as members of the local veterans organization, the Council on Aging and countless other efforts to improve life in Andover.

They come from different backgrounds and experiences yet each of them still displays that sense of dedication demonstrated so many years ago. Each is the sort of person who at a moment's notice is ready to give a helping hand, asking for nothing in return. More often then not, their contributions are behind the scenes.

They know that while much changes, some things never do. To make a great effort succeed we have to work together. Their experience teaches us that it is the same whether we're saving a country or building community — we each have to do our part, together.

And, for Leo and Oscar, I suspect it made a difference to know that someone noticed and cared and was grateful. Happy holidays and peace.

Jeanne Madden
Shawsheen Road

(Editor's note: The writer is the senior center director.)

Special gift

(Continued from page 8)

Molly's mom, Chris Cikacz.

In five years, Molly had collected checks totaling $7,800 in her box. But this year, with Kate giving Molly a plaque from the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation at the party, along with donated roses and a bracelet from Andover businesses Kabloom and Royal Jewelers, the box saw far more cash than ever before.

"There's a cystic fibrosis walk every year," says Kate. "We raised $5,000 in 30 days for it. But Molly raised $4,500 in one afternoon."

Kate and Molly give a simple explanation for why they raised so much more at the party this year.

"I thought it was because we made everyone in the place cry," laughs Molly.

"Everywhere you looked, there was a puddle," agrees Kate.

The $4,500 raised by Molly this year means she's already achieved her goal of raising $10,000. So what's her new goal?

"I think we're going for $1 million now," she says.

"We're going to need a bigger box," says Kate.

Neil Fater is editor of the Townsman.

Girls and boys in school

achievement. I suspect if it's true in Andover it's true everywhere.

It's always been that way, asserted Lois Roberts, head of the English department. Roberts says she has taught for over 40 years, and in many states. She has been at Andover for four years, and she was at Haverhill previously.

It's the 'good little girl' syndrome,' she says.

"They do their work, and as a result of that they come out looking stronger," says Roberts. "They're more obedient, and they're taught to be more obedient. It's your basic gender stereotyping — which does not mean that all girls are obedient, but, as a girl, that's what you're taught. If a little boy is rebellious, people think it's cute, but if a girl is rebellious it's inappropriate."

School Committee member Dick Collins, who taught social studies in Andover from 1959 to 1996, also alluded to gender socialization.

"I think it's just part of the teenage culture growing up," he said. "For boys, it's not as macho to try hard in school. Years ago, I used to say in jest to my girls, 'How come you're so smart in my class but you're so dumb when you leave here?' — meaning they didn't go to college, like they do now. I was actually making a feminist statement. As long as I can remember, girls have always done better as a group than boys. I don't see it as a terrible fault, I think it's simply a product of our culture."

In fact, a Dec. 7 article in *Time* magazine reported that since 1992, college attendance among men has been in decline, and today only 44 percent of college undergraduates are male.

"It's really hard to say," why girls perform better, said junior Megan Pinksten, co-founder of the student group Girls' Leadership Action Motivator, or GLAM.

Pinskten started GLAM earlier this year because she wanted to provide an all-girls environment where girls could build their self-confidence.

"In most of my math and science classes there are a lot of really intelligent guys, but in

(Continued on page 12)

Photo by Tim Jean

High performance — National Honor Society members, like these Andover High track teammates, will find that the majority of their fellow NHS members are female.

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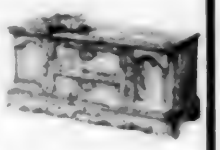

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Education

AHS sets 3 goals

By Adam Groff

For as many as 100 Andover High students, school is not "a meaningful experience," says Principal Peter Anderson. Changing that fact is among Andover High School's goals for the new year.

In fact, the School Council's school improvement plan outlines three goals for the coming year, according to Anderson: increasing staffing to meet the needs of additional graduation requirements; giving attention to those "disenfranchised" students; and seeking to define excellence in education at Andover High.

Increased graduation requirements mandated by the state, says Anderson, include increasing the number of total credits and subjects needed for graduation. New subject requirements, such as world languages, will call for additional teaching staff. Anderson said that specific staffing requests will be included in the school's upcoming budget proposal.

The term "disenfranchised students," according to Anderson, refers to "students who don't seem to fit in, in the American public high school, for whatever reason. They are students who don't find high school a meaningful experience. We want to try to pull them in."

Anderson says that there are perhaps 100 students at AHS who could be described this way, and he does not consider this number unusual.

The search for a definition of excellence at AHS is needed because of a routine visit from an accreditation team from the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, which will begin in 2002. They will be making observations and recommendations concerning Andover High's performance, said Anderson.

"For a year prior to that we'll be working in areas of focused self-study," he said.

Excellence can be measured in any number of ways, said Anderson, and part of the task of the study will be determining those measures. Possible measures among many, he said, include levels of student achievement, levels of student participation, what students do when they leave AHS, and how parents in the community rate the school.

Photo by Tim Jean

The school improvement plan at Andover High has identified three goals: increasing staffing; making high school a meaningful experience for students who don't feel they are included; and defining excellence in education.

Doherty Middle School announces first-term honor roll

The following students have been named to the honor roll for the first term at Doherty Middle School:

Grade 8

High honors

Peter Accomando, Caroline Adams, Courtney Aleksa, Nathan Altshuler, Marc Asch, Caitlin Ashley-Rollman, Benjamin Baldwin, Nina Beinart, Lisa Bernstein, Brooke Borstell, Thomas Cahill, Joshua Caplan, Caitlin Carpentier, Bryanna Casey, Ann Marie Cashman, Christopher Childs, Caroline Clafin, Mary Cate Connors, Afton Cuomo, Lisa D'Ambrosio, Scott Davenport, Whitney Domigan, Sarah Donelan, Meaghan Downes-Berry, Alfred Eng, John Formichella, Amy Fowler, Joseph Geary, Jamie Goddard, Zara Golden, Melissa Goldman, Jeanmarie Gossard, Ryan Greeley, Grace Ha, Margaret Hanlon, Brayden Hass, Briga Heelan, Christopher Herlich, Jonathan Hillman, Matthew Hogan, Adam Holt, Patrick Hughes, Rishabh Iyer, Christopher James, Amanda Kaminski, Mary Keohane, James Kim, Emily Korba, Victor Lanio, Samantha Lederfine-Paskal, Brianna Levy, Tabitha Liversidge, Maya Lucaci-Vashee, Rory Luoma, Kristen MacInnis, Matthew Malloy, Jamie Maltz, Mark Margiotta III, Ewan McNeil, Jonathan Meltz, Adrianne Mendoza, Elizabeth Minton, Sarah Morgan, Michael Muccio, David Musto, Katie Nadworny, Jill Newman, Tracy O'Malley, Michael O'Reilly, David Ong, Nicole Ortiz, Leslie Peck, Meredith Peck, Michelle Pirro, Jacquelyn Powers, James Primes, Garrett Rayner, Lauren Reed, Conor Rice, Laurel Ridge, Grant Robinson, Peter Rotundo, Joseph Rusckowski, Matthew Saia, Gregory Salvesen, Melissa Samler, Amanda Saunders, Alexander Seletsky, Oleg Seletsky, William Shaheen, Patrick Shannon, Anne Sharp, Samuel Silverman, Christina Spang, Gregory Spurr IV, Noah Starr, Geoffrey Stevens, Michael Strock, Cara Sullo, Lu Lu Tao, John Thorlin, Kendall Toland, Kristin Villanueva, Sean Wadland, Evelyn Wang, Peter Wang, Skylar Washburn, Rachel Weisblatt, Ann Wilkin, Emma Wollman, Jonathan Yost, Michael Zakin.

Honors

Joseph Abisso, Kaitlin Atkins, Grant Brewer, Kara Bularzik, Peter Burke-Wallace, Brian Burns, Michael Cerchione, Christopher Cole, Ashley Collins, Elizabeth Conlin, Annie Corbett, Casey Cosgrove, Jennifer Depiano, Eric Draper, Laura Dunn, Melissa Foley, Elizabeth Fortier, Sarah Gagnon, Brett Godefroi, Jacqueline Herling, Matthew Jacobs, Meghan Keefe, James Keith, Jonathan Kerry, Andrew Labov, Gregory Lam, Margaret Lamond, Danielle Lemire, Ariel Lilly, Conor Lynch, James MacDonald, Ana-Ligia Maier, Aileen Malloy, Seth Martin, Chelsea McCabe, Patrick McCarron, Brad Murray, Jason Newman, Kristin Ota, Kayla Parker, Lino Patti, David Pilla, Matthew Quinlan, Michael Reidy, Callie Riera, Danna Rodrigues, Leah Rubin, Lauren Rubino, Rebecca Sanfield, James Scully, Christa Sharis, David Silberstein, Rakesh Singh, Anastasia Sullivan, Colin Sullivan, George Velonis, Corinne Welsh, Keith Wetterskog, Kyle Williams.

Grade 7

High honors

Jeffrey Bakkensen, Ashley Baldwin, Michael Baldwin, Connor Beatty, Mark Begley, Michael Besser, Michelle Blanter, Amy Boxell, Sara Boxell, Emily Brenner, Alexandra Caffrey, Gregory Carroll, Eric Champion, Jocelyn Chang, Debbie Cheng, Rebecca Christoforo, Patricia Collins, Matthew Colombo, Kristin Costagliola, Seth Davidovits, Jayme Day, Michael Devine, Eric Donahue, Elizabeth Errico, Christina Freccero, Hannah French, Leigh Frens, Mason Fried, Michael Galaburda, Xavier Gath, Kira Gendlerman, Theodora Givens, Laura Goldshein, Emma Haak, Jennifer Hagopian, Courtney Hamer, Amy Hanes, Kristina Henry, Kerry Hill, Marie Huntley, Julian Jacobson, Seth Johnson, Anna Johnson, Jillian Kenney, Risa Kent, Phillip Kim, Michael Lamagna, Simona Lang, Alyssa Lau, Maria Lechtarova, Michael Li, Richard Licciardi, Danielle Liffmann, Melanie Lin, Rachel Lindmark, Sarah Linnemann, Julia Littlefield, Jennifer Luber, Lauren Marsh, Alexander McCargar, Michael McKenzie, Shauna McManus, Caitlin Milley, Casey Mitrano, Lindsay Moramarco, Samuel Morin, Matthew Moura, Jocelyn Nagy, Adam Neil, Christine Nigh, Michael Norton, Bryan O'Connor, Benjamin Ossoff, Emily Pallotta, Christopher Palmieri, Anthony Palumbo, John Penny, Matthew Pescatore, Marie Provencher, Laura Radlinski, Jessica Ragnio, Mark Rauseo, Christine Richardson, Joanna Salini, Richard Sawyer, Jeremy Selwyn, Timothy Smith, Thomas Tassinari, Kate Therkelsen, Jaclyn Todisco, Joseph Tonelli, Amanda Trerotola, Julian Vastl, Julie Wadland, Tiffany Wang, Jennifer Wang, Jason Westgate, Gregory Wilbur, Jessica Yu.

Honors

Devin Afshin, Gayle Altshuler, Michael Anciello, Kelly Babik, Leslie Barber, Jason Berman, Matthew Biles, Steven Brickman, Luke Bruno, Patrick Calderhead, Julie Anna Cleary, Evan Cooke, Alana Cuneo, Michael D'Angelo, Jesse Dell-Ross, Jeffrey Farmer, Stephanie Feeney, Gregory Finger, Christopher Fiorentino, Tyler Fitzpatrick, Christopher Forsythe, Mary Fowler, Anna Gikow, Michelle Gilbert, Kerry Haugh, Eric Hinds, Jeremy Hogan, Ari Horovitz, Molly Hudkins, Devin Kelly, Hollis Koolen, Hannah Korba, Michael Lambert, Douglas LaRose, Robert Lennon, Meredith Levenson, Michael Lippi II, Andrea

(Continued on page 14)

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Achievement levels

my English and history there are lots of girls with deeper insights. It could be attributed to the fact that girls mature earlier than guys," she says.

Anderson lent support to Pinksten's observation by citing a number of well-known studies, one by the American Association of University Women, showing that, in general, females tend to opt out of courses in the higher levels of math and science.

However, says Mary Ellen Duffy, head of the science department, that's not true at AHS.

"I think it's fairly balanced," she said of the gender ratio in the science program. She noted that Andover has always been "a big science school," and that a majority of students, male and female, opt for four years of science classes. She also said, however, that the ratio in upper-level science classes changes from year to year, but that in general more boys tend to enroll in "hard" science classes like physics, while more girls tend to choose "soft" sciences like biology. Currently, she said, there are 15 students enrolled in advanced-placement physics, and only one is female. Of the 17 enrolled in advanced-placement environmental science, however, 11 are girls.

"We've always been very cognizant of girls in science," said Duffy. "A few years ago I had a couple (of) teachers involved with the Wellesley program on gender equity. They held workshops for teachers to ensure that they're recruiting women and minorities into science. They took a look at Andover and found that as far as national and state averages, we had a fairly high number of girls in science and math."

Mathematics department head Donna Pappalardo said that although, on average, boys tend to perform slightly better in math, "one thing I've noticed is that boys are much more difficult to get to do homework, starting around the sophomore year."

Other student opinions on the matter appeared to be fairly uniform and in agreement with many teacher observations.

"I'd say a higher percentage of girls put in more effort than guys," said senior and NHS member Jonathan Ofria. "I guess maybe, if you're a guy, you might be afraid to get ragged on. Some guys joke around and say, 'Oh, you think you're so smart,' when someone gets good grades."

Junior and recent NHS inductee Daniel Lentz agreed. "It's not that girls are smarter, but their work ethic is probably better," he said. "Maybe they mature faster and carry more responsibility to their daily work. I know we had a huge history test recently, and I stayed after school to ask the teacher additional questions; when I showed up, there were eight students there, and I was the only boy. In class I don't notice too much difference, but outside class girls just seem to work harder."

"I think girls stick together in groups more," suggested junior and fellow NHS inductee Julie Marvin. "One person doing something would probably encourage a friend to do the same thing. I know the community service I do, I do with all my friends. Also, the girls I know that do well in school get a lot of parental pressure. In high school, I think parents keep a closer watch on their daughters than on their sons. I think it has nothing to do with intelligence, more with work ethic."

School Superintendent Claudia Bach, reflecting on the issue, said, "I think the old way of looking at this is that you'd expect to see girls excelling up to and including high school, but then the boys caught up in maturity and soared ahead. Looking at the situation 10 or 15 years ago, people would believe that."

Her remarks suggested that students perform up to expectations, and she expressed satisfaction with the apparent results of Andover's gender equity initiatives in math and science.

However, Bach also expressed concern about the disparities in student performance, particularly if students are getting a message that it's less desirable or less expected for boys to try hard in school.

"If those sort of stereotypes are alive and well, then we should look at that," she said. "All stereotypes need to be addressed. It should be as important for boys to perform academically, it should be as high a value, as for girls. The gender initiative now is very clear in saying it is a gender initiative, not a girls' initiative."

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Grade 8

High honors

Robert Abisi, Rebecca Agostino, Erik Anson, Heather Arvidson, Kristina Black, Andrea Boshar, Hilda Buss, Christina Cahill, Kimberly Carey, Amanda Carrington, Brennan Casey, Christopher Coyle, Colleen Cummings, Casey Deschene, Laurel Dezieck, Fiona Dooley, Meryl Draper, Stephanie Eng, Kelsey Eriksen, Joseph Frio, Kristina Fuerst, Daniel Godefroi, Samuel Gould, Briana Gross, John Hamilton, Nathan Hass, Douglas Hawkins, Colin Hopkins, Taylor James, Ryan Jimenez, Lauren Keefe, Kevin Kobler, Caroline Koch, James Krendel-Clark, Thomas Ladeau, Benjamin Lederfine-Paskal, Merav Levkowitz, Colette Lilly, Dorothy Liu, Lina Lucaci-Vashee, Toby Maltz, Grace Miceli, Gregory Moore, Katherine Morris, Julia Newman, David Papas, Maria Parfenova, Samuel Rauseo, William Rauseo, Callen Rockwell, Rachael Rosenberg, Allison Ryans, Andrew Salerno, Jeffrey Salvesen, Karen Schoenherr, Miles Silverman, Brett Silverstein, Rachael Singleton, Peter Smith, Diana Spang, Abhishek Sripad, Madelyn Sundberg, McKenzie Trainor, Christine Vispoli, Lauren Vivian, Leslie Walker, Laura Wareham, Brittany Weeks, Shuang Wu, Daniel Yanofsky, Nicole Zaffini, Jiyuan Zhu.

Honors

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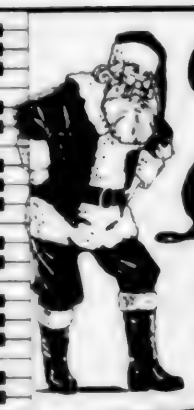

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News

Town's management analyst Johnson-Staub leaving for greener pastures

Budget-time goodbye for town's right-hand money man

By Rebecca Piro

The man who has served as acting town manager when Town Manager Buzz Stapczynski is away will soon be going away himself, permanently.

Management analyst Peter Johnson-Staub has quickly gained the respect of town officials and a great deal of responsibility, especially concerning the annual budget, during his brief two-and-a-half years as a town employee, says Finance Director Tony Torrisi.

"Peter has made in a very short period of time an extraordinary contribution to the town," Torrisi says. "He is well-respected by staff and elected officials. (His position) is called management analyst, but he was accomplishing much more, and performing leadership roles in many cases."

But now, just as fiscal year 2002's budget comes together, Johnson-Staub is moving on. He plans to take a town government position in Yarmouth, Mass., starting in January. While Johnson-Staub says he has enjoyed working with Andover elected officials and committees, his decision stems from his career goals and his family plans.

"It's a combination of things," he says. "(The decision) fits with my long-term plan, which is to be a town manager."

Peter Johnson-Staub

Yarmouth, a community of 22,000, has a comparable form of government to Andover, says Johnson-Staub. His new position, town administrator assistant – the town administrator being a comparable position to Andover's town manager – comes with more responsibility than his current job and a significant salary increase. Johnson-Staub's pay will jump from $44,000 to $60,000, says Robert Lawton, Yarmouth town administrator.

"I will be working in close partnership with the town administrator and day to day affairs of the town," says Johnson-Staub. He will have direct supervision over the town library, elder services, town clerk, recreation and natural resources, Lawton adds.

The change is also a good opportunity for his wife, Christine, his three-year-old, and a second child on the way, he says.

"We can afford to buy a home down on the Cape with my (new) salary down there," he adds.

Johnson-Staub's timing will force town officials to scramble slightly more than usual in terms of preparing the budget for April Town Meeting, says Torrisi.

He has asked town department heads to return their budget requests for fiscal year 2002 two weeks early, before Johnson-Staub leaves. Otherwise, the town manager's projected budget – which considers each department's needs and priorities, Capital Improvement Plan projects and expected revenues – will be released as usual to the Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen by the first Friday in February for review.

The departmental reports will not lack detail or accuracy due to the sped-up process, Torrisi says.

However, Schools Superintendent Claudia Bach, who was informed of the early deadline by the *Townsman*, is disappointed that she will not have the extra two weeks to reach an agreement in teacher-salary negotiations.

"We're still in the middle of contract negotiations," Bach says. "(The teachers' union negotiations) may or may not finish before the budget deadline occurs, but our hope this year was that we would (finish), so that we would have a specific amount to put into the budget, and not an anticipated amount."

But if an anticipated number is the

(Continued on page 20)

Andover site safe from Gillette cuts?

By Adam Groff

Consumer products manufacturer Gillette announced Monday that it will be laying off 2,700 employees next year, or eight percent of its work force. While the global company remains silent regarding where the layoffs will occur, the Andover manufacturing facility appears likely to be unaffected.

"There's been no specifics," said Gillette public relations spokesman Stephen Brayton in Boston on Tuesday, "but I will say that Andover is our lead toiletries manufacturing plant, and we just put some new investment in there."

(Continued on page 19)

Photo by Tim Jean

Which way? — While offering no specifics about cuts, a Gillette spokesman notes the company "just put some new investment" into the Andover Gillette site.

Selectmen against train-station garage

By Rebecca Piro

Hopping on board the MVRTA's rail station improvement plan is not an option for Andover right now, says Selectmen Chairman Brian Major.

Merrimack Valley Regional Transportation Authority Administrator Joe Costanzo asked the selectmen Monday night to decide by March whether the town will participate in MVRTA's proposed rail-station improvements, which include Andover, Ballardvale and Lawrence stations.

MVRTA proposes to construct a two-level parking deck over the current town yard, located off Pearson and Lewis Streets, under which the town yard could still operate. MVRTA's other suggestion is to construct a two-level parking deck on the current commuter-lot site.

The plans include a minor parking addition to the Ballardvale station and the construction of a major parking facility in Lawrence.

But Major says this is not the time for Andover to commit to more construction projects, considering it has not yet solved what he considers to be the bigger problem – traffic congestion.

"We could not even come up with a solid plan between now and (March) as to what to do with the traffic problem, and trying to introduce more traffic to (the area) would be a disaster," says Major.

Residents and town officials have expressed concern that building more parking spaces would only attract more cars to the downtown.

Photo by Tim Jean

Not all aboard — Selectmen say they're against the idea currently, so Andover residents will not see a new parking garage near the Railroad Street station lot as proposed by the MVRTA.

"I feel very strongly that there is a serious traffic problem on Main Street," says Margaret O'Connor of Railroad Street. "We can't afford to bring one more car into Andover."

"We've got too much traffic in that area as it is," agreed Selectman John Hess.

In addition, Andover residents would have to fight for use of the new spaces, as cars from neighboring towns would likely flock to the new garage. The only way Andover could reserve those spaces for residents would be to build the garage with town funds, says Costanzo.

But Major says the town doesn't have the money for such additions.

"Everybody knows we're short on capital dollars right now because of the big projects we have going," he says, referring to the new schools, the new safety center and the sewer project, which will cost a total of nearly $70 million.

Town officials would also need extra money to move the town yard if

(Continued on page 16)

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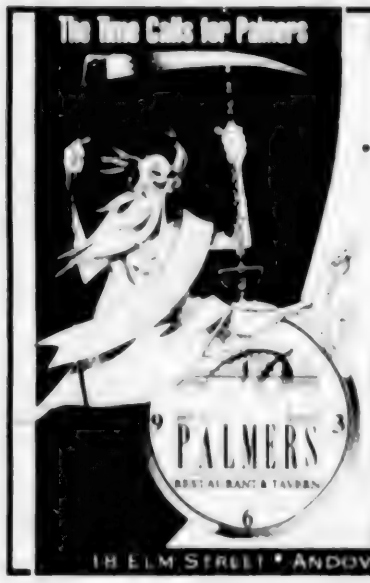

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Town yard move seen as needed

MVRTA's plan was to happen, Major says.

Public Works Director Jack Petkus said in an earlier interview that he didn't like the idea of keeping the current town yard functioning underneath MVRTA's proposed parking deck. The town yard would have to be moved and Major says that not only can't the town afford to move the yard, but it's been unable to find a new location for it.

"Substantial work on the town yard is going to be years off," Major says. "I don't see that there is any way to work on a parking facility there if the state's not going to come to the table to help us fund relocation of the facility. If the state said they would pay (for the move and construction), then that puts it in a different light. But so far, I haven't seen that."

Even if state Senator Sue Tucker or Rep. Barry Finegold could secure state aid for the project, it would never happen before Costanzo's March deadline, Major says.

Rather than looking at this as a missed chance with MVRTA, Major views it as the right move for Andover.

"Are we missing out on that opportunity, or are we trying to plan it out, so that if it goes forward it's done appropriately?" he said.

The Lawrence facility will be constructed even if Andover is not on board, says Costanzo. MVRTA plans to send out a Request For Proposal after the first of the year, and construction is tentatively set for 2002.

Shuttle solution?

Another option for Andover is to start a shuttle service for residents to and from the rail station, says Costanzo. A shuttle service, which MVRTA would help design, could encourage people to leave their cars at home.

"If traffic is a real concern, then you need to get people to the station some other way than by car," says Costanzo.

It is also possible that the town could acquire a state grant to fund the shuttle service, he adds.

"I think the shuttle service is very interesting, and I'd like to find out if other people would like to (try) that, even on a trial basis, and see if it would take off any pressure," says Hess.

It is possible that the new Lawrence facility will attract a significant number of commuters when it opens in a few years, easing Andover's congestion, says Costanzo. Use of Mishawum station in Woburn could also eliminate some of Andover's traffic. But Costanzo says that Andover needs to take action on its own behalf, whether it means building a parking facility or designing a shuttle service.

"Somehow, we need to come to a solution here," he says.

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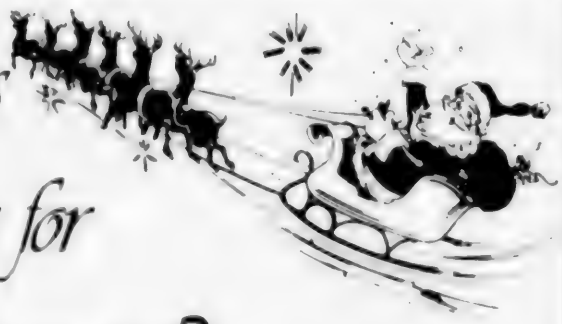
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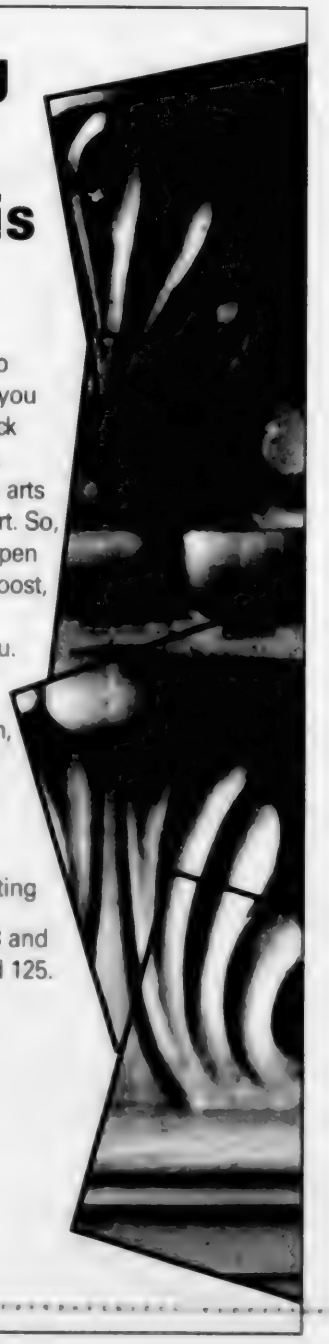
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Construction

Continued from page 1

completed and occupied prior to (the September 2002) date."

But things are different at the safety-center site, even though ground was broken there only one week after the new schools' groundbreaking. Piantedosi says that two major setbacks have put the safety-center project at least two months behind schedule.

One of the problems is the station's main utility pole, through which several communication lines run. The phone and cable companies have not coordinated a time to move the pole and its wires all at once, and contractor Mello Construction of Taunton, Mass., has had to work around the pole, which stands in the middle of the site.

The site itself is more challenging than the schools' site, Piantedosi adds, because workers need to sift through the rubble and foundations left behind by the former Tyer Rubber Company that once stood there. The school site is also on unoccupied West Andover land, while the safety center is being built next to the current downtown safety center.

Piantedosi also commented on the number of workers provided by Mello. "They have not had a lot of people on the site doing the work," he says.

Selectmen Chairman Brian Major says he is very concerned with the lack of progress he sees at the safety-center site.

"I would have expected more to be done by now," he says. "I don't think we as a town will be really patient."

Despite that statement, he is prepared to give Mello more time to work out the glitches. "In the next couple of months, if we don't see anything substantial, we'll have to take a serious look at the direction of the project," Major says.

Because of the contract that the town signed with Mello, officials have to give the contractor the benefit of the doubt, says Piantedosi.

"The whole process is dictated by law, and there is a contract between the town and the contractor... that has to be held to," he says. "This project is a two-year project, and the contractor basically has two years to complete everything."

There is a clause in state law that says there is a point where a town can draw the line and demand the bond back from a contractor.

"Unfortunately, we're not at that point," says Piantedosi. "That would be a point where someone has basically stopped work, or refused to do work, and is legitimately way behind schedule. (Mello) feels that he can get back on track and meet the schedule, so until we can prove that that's not the case, he still has the right to go ahead and demonstrate that he can do that."

Piantedosi insists that the town is really pressuring Mello to keep up its end of the bargain and get back on track.

"It's been action all the way - (we're) not compromising," he says. "I think that we've questioned every detail that we didn't feel measured up to our specifications, including concerns about the schedule. We have been meeting weekly with (Mello) in areas where there have been issues, and we've addressed them immediately."

Town Manager Buzz Stapczynski suggested that the situation between the town and the contractor was an amiable one.

"I wouldn't say there is any blame being passed around," he says. "(The town is giving Mello) a lot of encouragement."

Major expects a report from Piantedosi in January on Mello's progress, and Piantedosi says he will be monitoring the contractor through Feb. 1, Mello's self-imposed deadline. Mello has promised to complete a list of items by that date.

"They will be continuing to do excavation work for the foundations, screening (fill) to get the rubble out, and the footings and foundations will be going in within next week or so," Piantedosi says.

Some form of recourse - Piantedosi would not specify what exactly will take place if that Feb. 1 deadline is not met.

"If they don't get the things done between now and Feb. 1 that they told us they would do, we will have to evaluate the whole thing at that point in time. If they didn't perform and refused to perform, (then) we would have to take whatever legal course (of action that would be appropriate)," he adds.

Major does not exclude the possibility of looking for a new contractor. "That's always a possibility," he says.

Stapczynski, however, feels that such thoughts are "a little premature."

Because the project has fallen behind schedule, Mello will have to make a few adjustments, such as pouring the concrete for the foundations in freezing weather with the help of propane heaters. But Piantedosi says those kinds of adjustments should not make a difference in the final product, and there is no reason to worry right now that the delays will cost the town more than the current $12.9 million price.

"If it's done properly, you should end up with the same result (as if the concrete was poured during the summer months)," he says.

Photo by Tim Jean

More help wanted? — Andover officials say they'd like more progress at the safety-center site.

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POLICE LOG

ARRESTS

Wednesday, Dec. 13 – At 2:22 p.m., Timothy Greene, 49, of 2 Lamolle Ave., Haverhill, and Thomas Walsh IV, 34, 14 Farmer Road, Hooksett, N.H., were arrested and charged with illegal possession of a Class D substance.

Thursday, Dec. 14 – At 11:07 a.m., Frank Bognanno Jr., 41, of 575 Lowell St., Wakefield, was arrested and charged with illegal possession of a Class D substance.

At 2 p.m., Derick Sarno, 21, of 42 Nandina Drive, Tyngsboro, was arrested and charged with the improper display of his license plates and illegal possession of a Class D substance. Also arrested was Justin Connors, 23, of 73 School St., who was charged with illegal possession of a Class D substance.

Friday, Dec. 15 – At 2:29 a.m., Jerome Platt, 19, of 108 Minden St., Jamaica Plain, was arrested and charged on a warrant for larceny from a building, larceny of goods worth less than $250, obtaining telephone service by fraud and using an unlawful telephone device.

Saturday, Dec. 16 – At 7:33 a.m., Charles Morris Jr., 36, of 350 South Main St., Randolph, was arrested and charged with driving after his license was suspended, driving after his license plates were revoked and driving without insurance.

At 7:09 p.m., Justin Hawes, 25, of 22 Charles St., Peabody, was arrested and charged with driving without his headlights on and driving while under the influence of alcohol.

Sunday, Dec. 17 – At 1:58 a.m., Eligio Vargas, 32, of 138 Light St., Lynn, was arrested and charged on five warrants for motor-vehicle violations, and also charged with illegally attaching plates to a vehicle, driving after his right to drive was revoked, and driving an unregistered and uninsured vehicle.

At 6:37 p.m., Sue Aliberti, 46, of 8 Apache Ave., was arrested and charged with leaving the scene after causing property damage, driving under the influence of alcohol and having an open container of alcohol in public.

Monday, Dec. 18 – At 8:14 p.m., Bridgette Hart, 39, of 3 Dane St., Lowell, was arrested and charged on three warrants: two for driving under the influence of alcohol and one for larceny.

At 11:04 a.m., John Herling, 17, of 2 Seneca Circle, was arrested and charged with illegal possession of a Class D substance and as a minor transporting alcohol.

Tuesday, Dec. 19 – At 11:33 a.m., Elvin Rivera, 42, of 141 Newbury St., Lawrence, was arrested and charged with a third or subsequent offense of shoplifting, and giving police officers false information.

INCIDENTS

Wednesday, Dec. 13 – At 3:28 p.m., a Brown Street woman reported that there was a squirrel in her house. A responding officer "was able to persuade Mr. Squirrel to leave the house" with the help of a broom, according to the log.

At 6:28 p.m., a Shattuck Road female reported that someone had harassed her by e-mail.

Thursday, Dec. 14 – At 1:43 a.m., a male reported that his girlfriend had hit him twice with her fists, and he wanted her removed from the apartment. A responding officer was told that neither party wanted to report anything.

At 10:30 a.m., two males were caught trespassing at Memorial Hall Library.

Friday, Dec. 15 – At 10:15 a.m., a female reported that her boyfriend struck her in the face.

Saturday, Dec. 16 – At 7:43 a.m., a Shandel Circle resident reported that a neighbor was attempting to stop the cleanup work he was trying to do on his land, stating that he was violating conservation laws. A responding officer convinced the neighbor to remove herself from the property. Several other neighbors also called the police station to protest the yard work.

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C	K	U	A	I	U	F	G	E	H	T
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G	R	S	A	C	S	Z	D	L	Z	N
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POLICE LOG

(Continued from page 18)

At 12:58 p.m., a Sutton Way resident reported that a male had called her requesting her credit card number and expiration dates, stating that he was collecting information due to a recent problem with credit-card thefts. The resident did not give the caller her information and hung up. An officer was to look into the matter.

Sunday, Dec. 17 – At 1:13 p.m., police picked up a bike found on the property of a Salem Street resident.

At 6:34 p.m., a Lowell Street resident reported that his neighbor's house had just been struck by lightning. An officer determined that it was actually a transformer fire that the neighbor saw. Mass. Electric Co. was notified.

Monday, Dec. 18 – At 4:41 p.m., a driver reported that "two loose roosters" were running around High Plain Road. The roosters were taken to an animal hospital.

Tuesday, Dec. 19 – At 2:15 p.m., a woman called from Greenwood Road to report that she had locked her infant in the car. Elm Street Automotive was able to get the car door open.

BREAKS

Wednesday, Dec. 13 – At 2:16 a.m., a security officer at the Andover Country Club reported that a trailer had been broken into and another had pry marks on the door. Nothing was taken from the trailers.

THEFTS

Wednesday, Dec. 13 – At 11:02 a.m., a male reported that his checkbook had been stolen in Lowell and one of his checks had been illegally cashed at The Savings Bank in Andover.

Thursday, Dec. 14 – At 11:56 a.m., a Locke Street woman reported that two UPS packages had been stolen from her front door. She did not see anyone take the packages, but there were visible footsteps in the snow.

Saturday, Dec. 16 – At 10:50 a.m., a female member of the Andover Garden Club reported the theft of two wreaths from Old Town Hall, as well as bows and holly missing from the urns in front of the building. The female did not know who was responsible for the theft.

Tuesday, Dec. 19 – At 2:59 p.m., an Andovers Gift Shop employee reported a shoplifter.

AUTO INCIDENTS

Friday, Dec. 15 – At 6:56 a.m., Elm Street Automotive requested an officer to look at a green Ford Escort they had been asked to tow that had keys in the ignition and credit cards lying around inside the vehicle. The officer took an inventory of the vehicle before it was towed, and the vehicle did not come up stolen.

Tuesday, Dec. 19 – At 12:28 p.m., an officer pulled an Andover man over on Greybirch Road for a missing license plate. When the driver's license came up suspended, the man ran away, resisting arrest. A search with the help of state troopers was unable to located the man.

At 2:32 p.m., a female reported that a dog had been hit on High Plain Road. The animal was dead when the animal control officer arrived at the scene.

ACCIDENTS

Monday, Dec. 18 – At 7:32 p.m., a two-car accident occurred on River Road with no major injuries. Elm Street Automotive was called to tow the two vehicles.

Gillette

(Continued from page 15)

He said specifics about the restructuring program will be released early in the new year, and the process will take about a year.

The company also said it will be closing eight factories and 13 distribution centers. Gillette employs about 39,800 people, the majority of them outside the United States. Just under 600 people are employed at the Andover facility.

This is Gillette's second restructuring in just over two years. In 1998, the company cut 4,700 jobs.

In addition to the familiar Gillette razors and shaving products, the company's operations also include Oral-B toothbrushes, Duracell batteries, and Braun appliances. The current move to cut jobs is being variously attributed to declining Duracell-battery sales, a weak euro in Europe, where Gillette does a third of its business, and improved production techniques.

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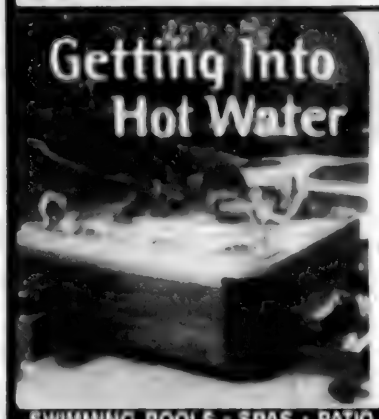

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Andover seniors unharmed

Bus accident on way to casino

By Adam Groff

Last Thursday's snow and slush temporarily derailed a trip to Foxwoods Resort Casino for a group of Andover seniors as their bus collided with another vehicle on I-395 in Connecticut. No one was injured in the accident, but the driver of the other vehicle, a Jeep Cherokee, was charged with driving with a suspended license and unreasonable speed.

According to senior group leader Oscar Rosenberg, the bus from Trombly Commuter Lines in Dracut left Andover Commons at 7 a.m. with a group of 29 seniors from Andover and surrounding towns.

Around 9:30, in the vicinity of Thompson, Conn., the bus was struck by the Jeep, which lost control on the slushy roads, according to the Connecticut state police accident summary. According to Rosenberg, "The car skidded across in front of the bus, hit the guard rail, and bounced back and hit the bus," denting the baggage compartments. Rosenberg said the people sitting on that side of the bus were jarred, but unhurt, and at first not clearly aware of what had happened.

The bus was able to return to Massachusetts, but the Jeep was severely damaged and had to be towed away.

The latter vehicle was registered in Connecticut and driven by Kenneth Sirimongkhoune, 19, of Worcester, Mass.

Capt. Thomas Snyder of the Connecticut state police said that because of a reciprocal agreement between Massachusetts and Connecticut, the charges against Sirimongkhoune will probably be taken up in this state.

Jim Trombly, of Trombly Commuter Lines, said that his insurers advised him not to comment on the accident. "The driver's utmost concern was with the passengers' safety, and he did an excellent job," he said of bus driver Austin Racioppi.

Rosenberg said that groups of seniors from the Andover Senior Center and other locations take a trip like this one nearly every month, either to Foxwoods or Mohegan Sun Casino. The trips are coordinated by Andover Haven Travel, a group loosely associated with the senior center.

Johnson-Staub

best the schools can do, that won't be out of the ordinary, says Bach. "There are always unknowns," she adds.

The budget process is not just a few months long, says Finance Committee Chairwoman Joanne Marden.

"The budget process is something that goes on all year for all 12 months," she adds.

But last-minute adjustments to the proposed budget, which usually occur between February and March, is where Johnson-Staub's presence will be most missed, says Torrisi. That is when unknown figures – such as state-aid amounts or special-education costs – are filled, says Marden.

Starting Monday, Dec. 18, Brett Wise, an intern working towards a master's degree in public administration, began performing some of Johnson-Staub's responsibilities. He'll do so for the next six months.

Town Manager Buzz Stapczynski is currently reviewing Johnson-Staub's job description before accepting potential applicants.

For now, Johnson-Staub's remaining time will overlap with Wise's first few weeks on the job. After that, Torrisi and Stapczynski will be on their own, says Johnson-Staub, who knows they've managed without him before, and will do it again. "Tony is going to have a few more gray hairs, and Buzz too. But I'm doing my darnedest to make the transition as smooth as possible," he says.

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Arts & Entertainment

Andover native nominated for Pushcart Prize literary award

By Judy Wakefield

A short story by Andover native Joseph De Quattro has been nominated for The Pushcart Prize, a top writing award that has been won in previous years by literary luminaries Raymond Carver, Joyce Carol Oates and Andre Dubus.

For 23 years, this prize anthology published by the Pushcart Press has honored the best fiction, essays, and poetry found outside the commercial mainstream. Short stories by Oates and Dubus are included in the 1999 edition.

Pushcart Prize nominations are taken from thousands of publications around the world. Nominations are typically intriguing and adventurous works — and De Quattro's short story fits that bill.

His entry is entitled *Angus in Extremis* and he described it as a first-person story "told from a 17-year-old's perspective and he is facing a gender problem."

"Up until the story, she considered herself a male (named Angus). There are some turns of events and she begins to realize that her real name is Katherine," he said.

"The story focuses on a week in her life up until the point where she has decided to take herself into another dimension," De Quattro, 33, said in a telephone interview from Manhattan, where he has lived for the past 7 years.

His story was published last May in *The Oyster Boy Review*, based in San Francisco, Calif., and the editor submitted it for The Pushcart Prize.

About 50 selections will be chosen for this year's edition of The Pushcart Prize. De Quattro said the winning selections will be announced later this month.

De Quattro was the only boy and the youngest of seven children who grew up in a Lincoln Circle home where his mother, Susan, and three of his sisters, still live. His father, Joseph De Quattro, lives in Methuen.

He dabbled in writing fiction in high school and attended Andover schools through the ninth grade. Then, he went to Central Catholic High School in Lawrence, graduating in 1985.

He studied business while attending Boston University and the University of Maine, from which he graduated. But writing was his passion, and he is currently working on a novel.

"I'm aspiring to be a novelist and my ultimate goal is to get the novel finished, and then published, and support myself from writing," he said. "To affect and move one reader, or a million readers, that would be my biggest reward."

In the spring, his short story *Over in Kew Gardens* will be published in *The Washington Review*, of Washington, D.C.

De Quattro is currently working on his application for a master's of fine arts in the creative-writing program at the University of Iowa. He is hoping to be accepted for September 2001. A Pushcart Prize award would certainly attract attention to that application.

"It's turning out to be a nice thing to be nominated," De Quattro said.

Colonial Chorus Players production of *Oliver!* recently wowed the audiences with six performances in Cambridge and Reading, organizers said. Andover residents included (clockwise, from top left) Keith Willis of Andover Eye Care, Sharyn Taitz, a nurse at West Middle School, Caitlin Jackson, West Middle School eighth-grader, Ben Pascucci, April Foley of South Church, Trevor Efinger, Kira Ventura, Andover High senior, and Justin Colombo, Doherty Middle School sixth-grader. The group's spring production is *42nd Street*, which will be performed in April.

EVENTS CALENDAR

THURSDAY, DEC. 21

First Light Hanukkah celebration, featuring a family concert by Yom Hadash, 7 p.m., $10 adults advance, $12 door, $5 children advance, $7 door, Temple Emanu-El, 514 Main St., Haverhill; Michelle Soll, Jan Brodie 688-0466.

Breast cancer awareness event, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., with staffers from the Breast Care Center at Holy Family Hospital who will answer questions about mammograms, other services, Wild Oats, Andover; 687-0151.

Live comedy, Boston Comedy Showcase, 8 p.m., call for prices, The Comedy Palace at Grill 93, River Road, Andover; (888) 865-2844.

FRIDAY, DEC. 22

Singles dance, sponsored by The Single Life's Billerica chapter, $8, 8 p.m., Knights of Columbus, Rte. 38, Tewksbury; Steve 988-9528.

Live comedy, Jim Colliton, Jesse Emmett, TJ Griffin, 9:30 p.m., call for prices, Comedy Escape at the China Blossom, Rte. 125, North Andover; (781) 938-8088.

SATURDAY, DEC. 23

Live comedy, R-rated hypnotist, 10:30 p.m., call for prices, The Comedy Palace at Grill 93, River Road, Andover; (888) 865-2844.

Live comedy, Jim Colliton, Jesse Emmett, TJ Griffin, 9:30 p.m., call for prices, Comedy Escape at the China Blossom, Rte. 125, North Andover; (781) 938-8088.

SUNDAY, DEC. 24

Live comedy, Boston Comedy Showcase, 8 p.m., call for prices, The Comedy Palace at Grill 93, River Road, Andover; (888) 865-2844.

MONDAY, DEC. 25
CHRISTMAS DAY

Church services are listed on page 29.

TUESDAY, DEC. 26

The Magic Well, Actors Studio, 246 Main St., #8, North Reading; Susan 664-1425.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 27

Hanukkah Wonderland, featuring children's entertainment, a magic show, live animal show, noon-4 p.m., $5, Old Town Hall, 20 Main St.; 475-1853.

Print competition night, Merrimack Valley Camera Club, 7:15 p.m., Trinitarian Congregational Church, Elm Street, North Andover; 689-9643.

***The Magic Well**, see Dec. 26 entry.*

THURSDAY, DEC. 28

***Hanukkah Wonderland**, see Dec. 27 entry.*

***The Magic Well**, see Dec. 26 entry.*

FRIDAY, DEC. 29

Live comedy, Dave Andrews, Mike Cote, 9:30 p.m., call for prices, Comedy Escape at the China Blossom, Rte. 125, North Andover; (781) 938-8088.

SATURDAY, DEC. 30

Live comedy, Dave Andrews, Mike Cote, 9:30 p.m., call for prices, Comedy Escape at the China Blossom, Rte. 125, North Andover; (781) 938-8088.

***The Magic Well**, see Dec. 26 entry.*

SUNDAY, DEC. 31

Anglican Festival of Lessons & Carols, 10:30 a.m., offering will be taken, Trinity Episcopal Church, 124 River Road, Topsfield; (978) 887-5570.

ONGOING

Museums and Historic Homes

Andover Historical Society permanent exhibit Amos Blanchard House and Barn Museum, containing period rooms from 1820s to 1840s, with 19th-century farm and woodworking tools; library and office hours 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Tuesday-Friday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Saturdays, Mondays by appointment; $4 adults, $2 children, members free; Andover Historical Society, 97 Main St.; 475-2236.

North Andover Historical Society, 153 Academy Road, North Andover, maintains two sites that feature museum galleries: 1789 Johnson Cottage, an artisan's home and workshop, and 1715 Parson Barnard House, depicting life from 1715-1830, 179 Osgood St. changing exhibits highlight local life from the 17th-to the 20th century, library and archive, $3 adults, $1 children, $2 seniors, Johnson Cottage, tours Tuesday-Friday 10 a.m.-noon and 2-4 p.m., $5 adults for a combined tour of both properties; 686-4035.

American Textile History Museum, *Second Impressions: Quilters Celebrate Cocheco Fabrics*, through December, ongoing *Textiles in America* exhibition, special exhibitions and events, function rooms, catering, museum store and Seasoned Chef Gazebo Cafe; hours are Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Saturday, Sunday, and most holidays 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; admission $5 for adults, $3 for seniors, students and groups, free for members and chil-

Continued on page 22

EVENTS CALENDAR LISTINGS

dren under 6, parking is free, and the building is wheelchair accessible. 491 Dutton St., Lowell. (978) 441-0400 or <www.athm.org>.

Museum of Printing, 800 Massachusetts Ave., North Andover, featuring antique printing equipment. $5 admission. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Friday, 1-8 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday, 1-5 p.m., 686-0450 or <www.museumofprinting.org>.

New England Quilt Museum, Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Sunday, noon-4 p.m., 18 Shattuck St., Lowell. (978) 452-4207.

Boott Cotton Mills Museum, *Closing The Life and Death of an American Factory Photographs by Bill Bamberger*, documents the closing of the White Furniture Co. of Mebane, N.C., through Jan. 28, free. Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 400 Foot of John, Lowell.

Castle Hill, 290 Argilla Road, Ipswich. (978) 356-4351.

Lawrence Heritage State Park, open daily, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., 1 Jackson St., Lawrence, 794-1655.

Custom House Maritime Museum, *Seeking Justice, 300 Years of People on the Newburyport Waterfront, Along the Shore, The Urban Seaport in the Age of Sail, A Gallery of Ships*, and *Coping with Crisis*. Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Thursday and Sunday, 1-4 p.m., 25 Water St., Newburyport; (978) 462-8681.

Wenham Museum, *Fun and Games*, through Feb. 15, an interactive exhibit exploring the types of games designed over the past 200 years; *Train Time 12*, through Jan. 28, features model train layouts, train memorabilia. $5 adults, $3 children ages 2 and up. 132 Main St., Wenham. (978) 468-2377.

Peabody Essex Museum, *Worlds Revealed: The Dawn of Japanese and American Cultural Exchange*, through March 17, 2001, Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday, noon-5 p.m., closed Christmas, New Year's. $10 adults, $8 seniors, free, children under 17. East India Square, Salem, Mass., (800) 745-4054, <www.pem.org>.

Art Exhibitions

Addison Gallery of American Art, Phillips Academy campus, Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday, 1-5 p.m.; 749-4015.

Essex Art Center, *Drawing as Process*, Karen Kelly Dardinski, Marty Epp, Masashi Harada, Margaret Shaw Janino, Hiroko Kikuchi, Damon Lehrer, and Mele Mendoza, through Jan. 4, Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., 56 Island St., Lawrence; 685-2343.

Merrimack College's McQuade Library Art Gallery, ***Resolution of Reality***, *A Colorful Look at the Past*, featuring 20 paintings inspired by old family photographs from the 1920s-'50s by Jan Searle of Newbury. Monday through Thursday, 7:30 a.m.-11 p.m., Friday, 7:30-6 p.m., Saturday, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Sunday, 11 a.m.-11 p.m.; 837-5000, Ext. 4205.

Merrimack College Rogers Center for the Arts McCoy Gallery, works by abstract painter Maria Groome of Arundel, Maine, through Feb. 2, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; 837-5189.

Brush Art Gallery, *Memory, Dreams, and Celtic Spirit: Paintings by Deirdre McCullough Grunwald*, through Jan. 7, Tuesday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Sunday, noon-4 p.m., 256 Market St., Lowell; (978) 459-7819.

J. David Broudo Gallery of Art, *Paperscapes* by artist Meg Black, through Dec. 21, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Endicott College, 376 Hale St. (Route 127) Beverly; (978) 232-2250.

Arthur Griffin Center for Photographic Art, Tuesday-Sunday, noon-4 p.m., wheelchair accessible, $3, $2 seniors, members, students and children, free, 67 Shore Road, Winchester; (781) 729-1158.

Montserrat College of Art Gallery, Monday-Thursday, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.; Friday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday, noon-4 p.m., 23 Essex St., Beverly; (978) 921-4242.

Senior Center artists, talented artists participate in art classes and enjoy the "drop-in group" on Wednesday and Thursday mornings, art display of oils, watercolors, pencil, pen and ink, pastels and oriental brush art is in the Music Room; Andover Senior Center, Whittier Court, 623-8321.

Town Manager's Offices, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St.; 623-8200.

Whistler House Muse-

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By Neil Fater and Don Mathias

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by Richard D. Hopgood, D.M.D., F.A.G.D.

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The pain of a cracked tooth is the body's way of signaling that something is wrong. When you ignore the pain, however, you also ignore the underlying problem, and relief slips farther and farther away. Be smart! For professional dental care - including advice on cracked teeth and other trauma - from a caring staff committed to your comfort and well-being, call us at **475-2431**. Emergencies are also welcome here at **296 Lowell Street, Rt 133**, with easy access off **Rt 93**.

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EVENTS CALENDAR LISTINGS

um of Art, *Ships at Sea: Paintings from the Permanent Collection; Aldro T. Hibbard: From Vermont to Rockport, Mass*; and *Pasture Views: New England Landscapes*; through December; *Works of Monique Sakellarios*, through Dec. 30, Wednesday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., $4, 243 Worthen St., Lowell; 452-7641.

Robert S. Peabody Museum of Archaelogy, *Peru: from Village to Empire*, through July, Tuesday through Saturday, noon-5 p.m., free admission, Phillips Academy campus, 175 Main St., 749-4490.

Peabody Essex Museum, *Frank W. Benson: American Impressionaist*, through Feb. 18; *Odyssey: A Journey into World Art*, through 2001; *The Real Witchcraft Papers*, ongoing; *The Saltonstall Family Portraits*, ongoing; *A Folk Art Sampler*, ongoing; Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday, noon-5 p.m., $10 adults, $8 seniors, students; free for children under 16; (978) 745-9500.

The Saltbox Gallery, works by 19 local artists from the North Shore, Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; 49 Main St., Topsfield; (978) 887-3844.

Churchill Gallery, Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Sunday, 12:30-5 p.m., 6 Inn St., Newburyport, (978) 462-9891.

Mingo Gallery, Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 252 Cabot St., Beverly (978) 927-5964.

The State of the Art Gallery and Sculpture Garden, Rocky Neck Art Colony, Gloucester, (978) 463-8883.

Arlington Center for the Arts, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m., 41 Foster St., Arlington.

Theatre

The Founder of the Feast, (a modern-day retelling of Dicken's *Christmas Carol*) through Dec. 31, $20-$34.50, Wednesday-Saturday, 8 p.m., Sundays, 2, 7 p.m., no shows on Dec. 24, no 7 p.m. show on Dec. 31, Merrimack Repertory Theatre, 50 E. Merrimack St., Lowell; (978) 454-6324.

A Christmas Carol, through Dec. 23, dinner shows, Thursday-Saturday, 7 p.m., Sunday, 5 p.m., show only, $15, dinner-show prices vary, reservations required, Amesbury Playhouse, 194 Main St., Amesbury; (978) 388-9444.

Holiday Extravaganza and Nativity, through Dec. 24, $13 adults, $11 children, Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays at 8 p.m., Saturdays, Sundays, at 3 p.m., Firehouse Performing Arts Center Market Square, Newburyport; (978) 462-7336.

You're a Good Man Charlie Brown, through Jan. 1, $10, Saturdays, 3, 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, Wednesday, 3 p.m., Thursday, 4 p.m., Friday, 3:30, 7 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 31, 2 p.m., Monday, Jan. 1, 3:30, 7 p.m., Neverland Theatre, Hamilton-Wenham Community House, Rte. 1A, Hamilton; (978) 468-1191 or <neverlandtheatre.com>.

ANDOVER TOWNSMAN DEADLINES
SCHOOLS pages: Friday @ 5 p.m.
EVENTS CALENDAR: Monday @ noon
Other news: Monday @ 5 p.m.

Perks Dance Music coming to Rogers Center

Perks Dance Music Theatre comes to the Rogers Center for the Arts next month.

The company is made up of four dancers and four musicians and the work is an collaboration between the two mediums. From concept to performance, this sparks an explosive connection between the visual and the aural.

The company, founded in 1995, comes from the Pilobolus, Momix tradition, yet carries on the lineage with fresh, new transformations. The Perks have an eclectic philosophy, creating works with humor and beauty, visual imagery and wild kinesthetics, with music ranging from funk rock to classical music.

The shows are lively, multi-dimensional and fluid, the music acting as a thread, binding the pieces into a seamless evening of theatre. The company creates energetic and visually stunning work.

The company performs Saturday, Jan. 27 at 8 p.m. at the Rogers Center for the Arts at Merrimack College. Advance tickets are $18 and $15 for students and seniors. All tickets at the door are $20.

Box office hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Call 837-5355 for tickets or more information.

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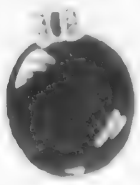
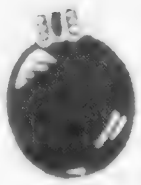
Saints Memorial Medical Center 2000 Highlights

Howard Koh, Commissioner of the State Department of Public Health, at the Grand Opening of the Cancer Center

Cardiac Catheterization Lab

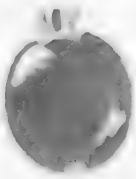


All of us at Saints Memorial Medical Center give thanks for a year of many blessings and achievements, the most important of which is the opportunity to serve you!



Emergency Services

Advanced Life Support



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Living

Samantha Vano played the Littlest Angel in the 24th annual Christmas pageant at West Parish Church, which took place Sunday, Dec. 17.

THEY HAVE THE *Holiday Spirit*

PHOTOS BY TIM JEAN

Alison McCarron had breakfast with Santa upstairs in Old Town Hall on Saturday morning, and had several pictures taken with him as well. Stephanie Kobler is shooting in the foreground, at left.

Spreading seasonal joy

Every year, 40 to 50 members of the Andover community flock to the Holt Road home of Eugene Doran for his holiday party and sing-along.

Christmas at Doran's house has been a big event for more than a decade. Because Doran is a quadriplegic, his friends have decided to gather there during the holidays.

Doran, 53, had a successful insurance business with John Hancock until 1986, when as he was waiting for a haircut at Coco's of Andover, a nail from a nail gun on the other side of a wall missed a stud, went through the wall and plunged into his spine at the base of his skull.

Now, according to Anne Smaglia, one of the nurses who cares for Doran 24 hours a day, "he has the same level of paralysis of Christopher Reeve." He was in the hospital for two years after the accident, and now breathes with the help of a ventilator.

But Doran still exudes the Christmas spirit.

"Gene is the most positive person I've ever met in my life," says attorney and friend Michael Morris. "He always looks for opportunities to make people happy, and this party is just one way. No one will

(Continued on page 26)

Eugene Doran and his daughter, Caitlin Doran.

Irving "Woody" Woodside with friends Bryan, Brandon, Cameron and Courtney Smith.

Santa's little helper

Irving "Woody" Woodside has earned quite a reputation as Santa's little helper. For 11 months out of the year, this retired Merrimac resident is a dishwasher at Friendly's Restaurant on Main Street. For the Christmas season, however, Woodside trades in his kitchen apron for something a little more festive – an apron with blinking, colored Christmas lights.

He also carries a book under his arm that lists naughty and nice residents, and uses it to bring smiles to the faces of his young and old customers.

"I ask them if they've been good, pretty good or very good," he says. " 'Do you help your mum around the house? Do you pick up your toys?' "

If the answer is affirmative, Woodside hands children cards to hang on their Christmas trees at home – a signal to Santa Claus on Christmas Eve that they have Woodside's stamp of good behavior.

"The reaction from the children is worth a million bucks to me," says Woodside, who has been retired for almost 12 years.

He pays special attention to his older customers by sharing a little Christmas spirit.

(Continued on page 26)

Giving and receiving

Last Sunday afternoon, several Christ Church parishioners gathered to participate in one of Christmas' age-old traditions – they went caroling, spreading the spirit of the season through song.

A winter wonderland it was not, but carolers plodded through the puddles first to Edgewood Retirement Community and Prescott House Nursing Home, both in North Andover, and then to Academy Manor where they sang of snow drifts and Santa Claus to the residents.

"We were sort of dashing through the rain, instead of dashing through the snow," laughed the Rev. Dennis Jarry. "I think it made it more fun."

The event, one of Jarry's first as the new rector of Christ Church, was originally intended as a project for the church's youth group. The crowd got much larger, however, when several adults and small children couldn't resist joining in, he said.

"(Caroling) triggers lots of positive memories," Jarry said. "We've seen a lot of smiles today."

Academy Manor resident Helma Schwartz sang each verse as joyfully as the next caroler.

"I thought they were great," she said, watching the carolers trail out of the room after the final verse of

(Continued on page 26)

Molly and Alex Lennon sing to Amelia Yankowski at Academy Manor Nursing Home.

Jewish volunteers help make Christmas Day fun for others

Armed with decks of cards, plans for a chess game and great big smiles, Leslie Finger and her son, Greg, 12, will once again spend part of Christmas Day with residents at Wingate nursing home in Andover.

It's all part of Temple Emanuel's involvement with Project Ezra 2000, a volunteer project of the Synagogue Council of Massachusetts. Basically, Jewish volunteers help out at nursing homes, shelters and food pantries across the state, enabling Christian staff members and volunteers to spend Christmas with their families. "Ezra" is taken from the Hebrew word "ozer" which means "to help."

Finger said about 15 volunteers from Andover's Temple Emanuel are taking part this year and they are teaming up with about 10 volunteers from Congregation Tifereth Israel, which is also based in Andover. The group will also visit Sutton Hill Nursing Home in North Andover.

"We'll help bring residents to the dining room and help them get their lunch. And, we visit lots of rooms and just talk with residents," Finger said.

In years past, Greg, who attends Doherty Middle School, has played chess and card games, and he plans to do the same this Christmas Day. Finger said the project is a real family affair for local Jewish families as many parents bring their children along.

Wingate is once again looking forward to the visitors.

"These people are the greatest," said Terri Catalano, activities director at Wingate. "They help wherever we need it. So many people here don't have any family members to spend Christmas with. They are so grateful."

Catalano said volunteers from Temple Emanuel have been visiting on Christmas Day for several years. And, she expects many faces to light up when they arrive on Monday.

Judy Wakefield

Photos by Tim Jean

From left, Mitchell Turow and his mom, Nancy, and Leslie Finger and her son, Greg, all of Andover, will spend Christmas Day visiting Wingate nursing home residents.

All decked out — Eugene Doran is known for his holiday spirit.

Doran: Seasonal joy

(Continued from page 25)

ever know all the things he does."

Doran's holiday party this year was set for yesterday, Wednesday.

"It's a group of men about town who gather to eat, drink, and sing," says Doran of the all-male gathering. They've even had songbooks with traditional holiday favorites printed for the occasion. "The thing we're really pleased about is that we've brought younger generations in over the years, with some guys bringing their sons," he says.

Doran and many of the men are involved in charitable giving in Andover and Lawrence. "We play Santa anonymously to a lot of (disadvantaged) kids," he says.

"He's been deprived of physical mobility," says Morris, "something that would be crushing to 99 percent of us, but he's taken it as an opportunity to become a better person."

— Adam Groff

Carolers: Lift spirits in song

We Wish You a Merry Christmas. The songs brought back memories of her childhood days. "We all sang at Christmas," she said.

Though the weather outside was frightful, it didn't dampen the spirits of carolers, who visited a couple of homebound residents after leaving Academy Manor.

"I think we've started a tradition," Jarry said, after watching the residents and carolers sing together. "We were sort of singing to each other. That's the Christmas spirit right there – giving and receiving."

Rebecca Piro

Carolers from Christ Church sing at Academy Manor Nursing Home.

Woody: Santa's little helper

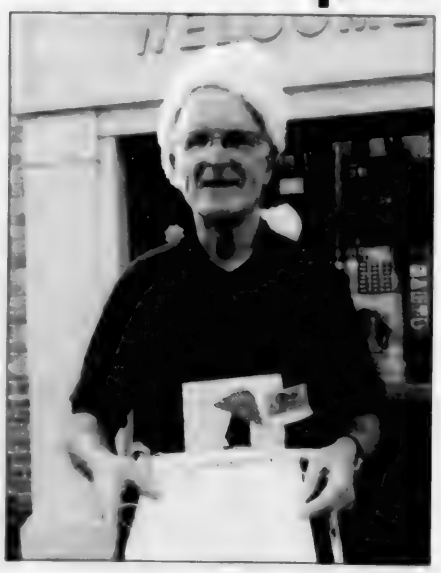
(Continued from page 25)

"I've purchased six or seven boxes of Christmas cards," he says. "I give them a Christmas card from me. It's worth it to me to know that I've done something to cheer them up."

Woodside plans to keep spreading Christmas cheer for as long as possible.

"I am 74 years old. I will be 75 next year, and if I can do it, I'm going to do it," he says.

— Rebecca Piro



Mr. Friendly — Woody has made a list and is checking it twice. ▶

Hanukkah Wonderland

Hanukkah begins at sundown tonight, Thursday. The community is invited to a celebration, the Hanukkah Wonderland, on Wednesday, Dec. 27 and Thursday, Dec. 28 from noon to 4 p.m. at Old Town Hall, 20 Main St.

Live entertainment will be featured along with a magic show, a live Pokémon show, a live animal show, and the animated Hanukkah story on video. Hands-on workshops will include an olive-oil press and a Hanukkah candle-making workshop. There will also be arts and crafts for children, games, and face painting.

Food and drinks will be available. Admission is $5; tickets are available at Strawberry Tree and Sweet Mimi's.

The event is a project of Chabad Lubavitch of Merrimack Valley and the Merrimack Valley Jewish Federation. Call 475-1853 for details.

NEWS FOR SENIORS

By Pat Becker

Here are some of the activities planned at the Andover Senior Center:

Senior Information Online: Did you know that you can get information about the senior center and even read the newsletter online? Just log onto <www.andoversenior-center.org>. The Web page also contains links to other sources of senior information.

***There's Something About Andover*:** You can also get news about the center as well as view many other topics of interest by tuning into the center's monthly cable show, *There's Something About Andover*. Produced and directed entirely be seniors, the show can be seen on channel 8 at 7 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday and at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. If you have any ideas for an interesting segment, be sure and let us know.

Senior Center receives intergenerational award: The Andover Senior Center and their intergenerational partner, Andover High School, were recently selected as the recipients of the Fran Pratt Award for the year 2000. This statewide honor is presented annually by the Massachusetts Intergenerational Network to a person or organization which shows vision, leadership and service in intergenerational efforts. We were chosen for our Mentornet program, which brought together senior center members and high school students to explore career options through the use of e-mail and the Internet. Our senior participants helped make the program so successful.

Weekly Activities: Just a reminder that the center offers a variety of ongoing programs and activities each week including exercise classes, bridge group, needle art, crafts, yoga, ping-pong, woodcarving, massage therapy, tai chi, art group, water workout, line dance, blood pressure clinic and more. Please call the center for information on days and times. We invite you to join us.

Theater Trip: The center will sponsor a trip to the Merrimack Repertory Theater in Lowell on Thursday, Dec. 28 for the 2 p.m. matinee performance of *Founder of the Feast*. This play is a contemporary and more adult version of *A Christmas Carol*, and we have great 17th row seats. Tickets are $17 and reservations may be made by stopping into the center.

We're looking for postcards: If you're traveling during the holidays or winter months, we're participating in a postcard campaign with the Andover School of Montessori and would appre-

(Continued on page 29)

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Main Street Mobil - 14 N. Main St.
Market Basket - Shawsheen Plaza
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NORTH ANDOVER
CVS - 115 Main St.
CVS - 350 Winthrop Ave.
Eagle Tribune - 100 Turnpike St.
J&M Country Store - 701 Salem St.
Joe's Variety - 220 Middlesex St.
Market Basket - 350 Winthrop Ave.
Osco Drug - 525 Turnpike St.
Perfecto's - Butcher Boy Plaza
Richdale - 75 Chickering Rd.
Richdale - 533 Chickering Rd.
Richdale - 4 Main St.
Sam's Mobil Mart - 12 Mass. Ave.
Super Stop & Shop - 757 Turnpike St.
Star Market - 109 Main St.
The General Store - 7 Johnson St.
The Vineyard - 550 Turnpike St.

BOXFORD
The Village Store - 561 Main St.

SOUTH LAWRENCE
Gary's Variety - 58 Beacon St.
Julie & Wendy's - 525 South Broadway

MIDDLETON
Market Basket - 230 S. Main St.
Richdale - 27 S. Main St.

METHUEN
Galloway's - 176 Pelham St.
Market Basket - 70 Pleasant Valley St.
Richdale - 76 Swan St.
White Hen Pantry - 319 Merrimack St.
Super Stop & Shop - Pleasant Valley St.

NORTH READING
Brooks - 265 Main St.
Citgo Quik Mart - 237 Main St.
Convenience Plus - Main St.
CVS - 20 Main St.
Kappy's Liquors - 265 Main St.
Lil' Peach - 202 North St.
New England Redemption - 158 Main St.
Star Market - 265 Main St.
Super Stop & Shop - 97 Main St.

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Crystal's General Store - 1120 Main St.
CVS - 10 Main St.
CVS - 1900 Main St. (Oakdale Mall)
Lil' Peach - 2280 Main St.
Market Basket - 10 Main St.
Market Basket - 1900 Main St. (Oakdale Mall)
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OBITUARIES

Mary P. Becotte

Formerly of Andover; retired from Tyer Rubber

Mary P. (Delaney) Becotte, 79, of Lawrence and formerly of Andover, died Sunday, Dec. 17 at Academy Manor Nursing Home.

Mrs. Becotte retired from Tyer Rubber Co. She was a member of Sacred Heart Church.

She was the widow of Joseph W. Becotte. Family members include her sister, Helen Gaudreau of Methuen; a brother, Clarence Delaney of Aiken, S.C.; and several nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews.

There were no calling hours.

A funeral service will be held today, Thursday, Dec. 21 at 10 a.m. at Sacred Heart Church.

Burial will be in St. Augustine Cemetery.

Arrangements are by Burke Funeral Home, 390 N. Main St., Andover.

Richard M. Canterbury

35 years of experience in college admissions

Richard Merrill Canterbury, 59, of Old South Lane, died Saturday, Dec. 16 at New England Medical Center.

Born in Hingham, he received his bachelor's degree in history in 1968 from Washington and Jefferson College in Washington, Pa., and his master's degree in 1978 from the University of Maryland.

Mr. Canterbury worked in college admissions at Washington and Jefferson College, Case Western Reserve and was director of admissions at Lawrence University in Appleton, Wis.

Mr. Canterbury retired as vice president in charge of college and university programs for Epsilon Data Management Co. in Burlington. He then founded Canterbury and Co. to utilize his 35 years of experience in college admissions.

He was a member of the Massachusetts Charitable Society, the National Association of College Admission Counselors, and Andover Village Improvement Society.

Members of his family include his wife of 30 years, Joan M. (Lally) Canterbury of Andover; two daughters, Cristin and her husband Alexander Bagnall of Haddon Heights, N.J., and Elizabeth Canterbury of Brookline; mother, Alma Canterbury of Westwood; and two brothers, Charles T. of Helena, Mont., and Robert B. of Boston.

Arrangements were by Dewhirst & Conte Funeral Home, 28 Florence St. Memorial contributions may be made to Andover Village Improvement Society (AVIS) in Andover; or Washington and Jefferson College, Washington, Pa.

Margaret Holland

Was a clerk for the Methuen Senior Citizens Center

Margaret "Claire" (Ford) Holland, 78, of Andover, died Monday, Dec. 18 at Holy Family Hospital in Methuen.

Mrs. Holland was a clerk for the Methuen Senior Citizens Center for several years.

Born and educated in Lawrence, she graduated from St. Mary's High School. She was a longtime Methuen resident before moving to Andover.

Mrs. Holland attended St. Monica's Church. She had formerly been active in Our Lady of Good Counsel Sodality at St. Monica's and their PTA.

She was the widow of Edmund G. Holland, and members of her family include three daughters, Catherine and her husband Dr. Stephen J. Milewski of Newington, Conn., Jane M. Hersey of Salem, N.H., and Claire A. and her husband Joseph A. Golden of Methuen; four grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Arrangements were by Pollard Funeral Home, 233 Lawrence St., Methuen.

A funeral Mass will be celebrated today, Thursday, Dec. 21 at 10 a.m. at St. Monica's Church. Burial will follow in Immaculate Conception Cemetery, Lawrence.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Monica's Church Building Fund, 214 Lawrence St., Methuen, MA 01844.

Dorothy Root Birdsall

Ran Coffee Mill Restaurant

Dorothy Root Birdsall, 91, of Duxbury, died Wednesday, Dec. 13.

Mrs. Birdsall and her late husband, John Morrison Birdsall Jr., ran the Coffee Mill Restaurant on Main Street in Andover for 15 years, from 1937 to 1952.

She was born in Haverhill and graduated from Bradford Academy in 1927 and Russell Sage College in 1931. She also received a master's degree in retailing from New York University.

Mrs. Birdsall was active in charity organizations throughout her life, serving as the chairman of the Board of the YWCA of Boston for several years.

She was also active within the Episcopal Church, where she served as an officer of the Episcopal Church Women in the Diocese of Massachusetts. She was a longtime member of the Vestry of St. John the Evangelist Church in Duxbury.

Members of her family include a son, John M. Bridsall III of Duxbury; two daughters, Emily Birdsall Henderson of Pheonix, Ariz. and Sarah Birdsall Isakson of Berkeley, Calif.; six grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Arrangements were by Shepherd's Funeral Home, Kingston.

Pauline Y. Smith

Retired music teacher

Pauline Y. Smith, 85, of Andover and formerly of Dundee, N.Y. and Florida, died Thursday, Dec. 14, at her daughter's home.

She graduated from Ithaca High School and earned a music degree from Ithaca College. She was a music teacher for Dundee schools and her love of music was evident all of her life, her family said.

Members of her family include her son, Peter L. Smith of Dundee; a daugther, Kathy and her husband, Charles, Kelley of Andover; six grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

(Continued on page 29)

Deaths Elsewhere

ARTHUR – Anthony L. Arthur, 45, of Derry, N.H., died Thursday, Dec. 14 at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston.

Mr. Arthur was director of marketing at Watts Regulator in Andover for 11 years.

BARBAGALLO – Sebastiana "Nellie" (Sciuto) Barbagallo, 102, formerly of Lawrence, died Wednesday, Dec. 13 at Wingate at Andover.

BUIA – Genevieve A. (Makarewicz) Buia, 85, of Lowell, died Saturday, Dec. 16 at home.

Members of her family include her son and daughter-in-law, Ronald W. and Carlene Buia of Andover.

HYNES – Catherine R. (McDonough) Hynes, 97, formerly of Methuen, died Thursday, Dec. 14 at Birchwood Nursing Home in Derry, N.H.

Mrs. Hynes worked as a clerk at the Internal Revenue Service in Andover.

KELLEY – Marie E. Kelley, 76 of Hampton, N.H., died Saturday, Dec. 16 at Exeter Hospital.

Members of her family include her sister, Rita White of Andover.

MAILLOUX – Donald Mailloux, 53, of Lowell, died Wednesday, Dec. 13 at Wentworth Nursing Home in Lowell.

Mr. Mailloux was a longtime employee of Phillips Academy.

NOLET – Aurore (Plourde) Nolet, 89, of Lawrence, died Friday, Dec. 15 at Lawrence General Hospital.

Mrs. Nolet worked as an inspector at Raytheon Corp. until her retirement in 1977.

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OBITUARIES

Pauline Y. Smith

[illegible]

Arrangements were by Baird Funeral Home, 36 Water St., Dundee, N.Y.

Timothy J. Wackowski

Mortgage consultant, AHS grad

Timothy J. "Tim" Wackowski, 36, of Methuen, died Monday, Dec. 18 at Holy Family Hospital following a brief illness.

He was born in Buffalo, N.Y. and his family moved to Andover when he was very young. He attended Andover schools and graduated from Andover High School. He attended Northeastern University and Merrimack College. He worked for East-West Mortgage and Old Town Mortgage of North Andover for many years. He was currently working at First Essex Bank in Lowell as a mortgage consultant.

Tim Wackowski

Mr. Wackowski enjoyed water sports. He was an avid boater and fisherman and spent summer weekends at Webster Lake in Webster.

Mr. Wackowski was also an attendant of the First Church Congregational in Methuen.

Members of his family include his wife, Pamela J. (Akerstrom) Wackowski; a daughter, Lauren Wackowski; a son, Nicholas Wackowski, all of Methuen; his father, Ronald and his wife Kathleen Wackowski of Andover; his mother, Barbara Faria and her husband James of South Dartmouth; two stepbrothers, Adam Luther of Somerville, and Dan Luther of Andover; and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

Friends may call today, Thursday, Dec. 21 from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. at the Charles F. Dewhirst Funeral Home, 80 Broadway, Methuen. Funeral services are tomorrow, Friday, Dec. 22 at 10 a.m. at the funeral home. Cremation will take place in Linwood Crematory in Haverhill.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Wackowski Family Fund, c/o First Essex Bank, attention: Mary Anne Anderson, P.O. Box 1000, Lawrence, MA 01842.

Albert E. Walden

Raytheon plant manager

Albert E. Walden, 85, of North Andover and formerly of Smithshire Estates, Andover, died Thursday, Dec. 14 at the Meadows.

Mr. Walden worked for Raytheon Co. for 42 years as a plant manager in Shawsheen Village, Sorensen, Conn., and Lowell, before retiring in 1987.

From 1966 to 1967, he served as vice president of research and development for Mattel Inc.

Upon his return to Raytheon, he moved to Paris as vice president of Raytas, and from 1974 to 1980, he was involved with upgrading of the Hawk Missile System for NATO.

Born and educated in Cambridge, he graduated from Boston Latin. He received a degree in engineering from the former Lowell Technical College, and over the next several years completed graduate courses at MIT and Harvard Business School.

Mr. Walden served as district chairman of the United Way and was a former member of Vesper Country Club in Lowell.

Members of his family include his wife of 33 years, Satineg "Sally" (Margosian) (Chooljian) Walden; a daughter and son-in-law, Judythe and James Roberts of Los Angeles, Calif.; stepdaughters, Joan M. and her husband Gary Bergstrom of Boston, and Charlene M. and her husband Charles Nickson of Houston, Texas; stepson, Charles S. Margosian and his wife Rose of Naperville, Ill.; two grandchildren; five stepgrandchildren; and two step-great-grandchildren. He was also the widower of Vera (Stavchuk) Walden.

Private funeral arrangements were by Dole, Childs & Shaw Funeral Home, 148 Main St., Haverhill.

Memorial contributions may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Baptist
Andover Baptist Church
7 Central St., Andover
CHRISTMAS EVE: Mass 4 p.m., 6 p.m., 8 p.m., 10:30 p.m.
Mass in lower church: 4:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m.
Mass at Merrimack College (pageant Mass): 4 p.m., 6 p.m.
CHRISTMAS DAY: Mass 9:30 a.m., 11 a.m.

St. Joseph's Church
22 High Vale Lane
Ballardvale
CHRISTMAS EVE: Mass 4 p.m., 6 p.m.
CHRISTMAS DAY: Mass 10 a.m.

St. Robert Bellarmine Church
Haggetts Pond Road
Andover
CHRISTMAS EVE: Mass 4 p.m., Main church and church hall; 7:30 p.m., Main church
CHRISTMAS DAY: 9:30 a.m. Mass

Congregational
Free Christian Church
41 Elm St., Andover
CHRISTMAS EVE: 9:30 a.m. Sunday worship with childcare; 11 a.m. Sunday worship with childcare; 5 p.m. family worship with childcare; [illegible] p.m. family worship with childcare; 11 p.m. service with Communion

Episcopal
Christ Church
[illegible] Central St., Andover
SUNDAY: 9 a.m., 4th Sunday of Advent, Holy Eucharist Rite II
CHRISTMAS EVE: 4:30 p.m. Children's pageant and Holy Communion; 7:30 p.m., Candlelight Festival Communion with full choir; 10 p.m. Contemplative candlelight Communion

Inter-denominational
BrookRidge
16 Haverhill St., Andover

New England Bible Church
60 Chandler Road, Andover
CHRISTMAS EVE: 9 a.m., morning service; 6 p.m., Christmas concert by the Taubl family.

Lutheran
Faith Lutheran Church
360 S. Main St., Andover
CHRISTMAS EVE: 9 a.m., Holy Communion; 3 p.m., Holy Communion; 5 p.m., Holy Communion; 7:30 p.m., Service of lessons and carols; 11 p.m., Holy Communion; nursery care provided at 9 a.m. only

Unitarian
Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Andover
6 Locke St., Andover
CHRISTMAS EVE: 7 p.m. Intergenerational service

United Church of Christ
South Church
41 Central St., Andover
SATURDAY, DEC. 23: 5 p.m. A Neverending Story (A "Christmas Eve, Eve" service), with the Blessed Gospel Choir and folksinger Ed Parker
CHRISTMAS EVE: 10:30 a.m. Intergenerational family service; 3 p.m., quiet, contemplative service; 10:30 p.m., Christmas Brass; 11 p.m., Candlelight service

West Parish Church
129 Reservation Road
Andover
CHRISTMAS EVE: 10 a.m., regular worship; 5 p.m. Family candlelight service with youth choir; 11 p.m., Candlelight service; 11 p.m., Service of lessons and carols

United Methodist
Ballardvale United Church
(United Methodist and United Church of Christ)
23 Clark Road, Andover
CHRISTMAS EVE: 10:30 a.m. regular worship; 5 p.m. family service; 8 p.m. Lessons and carols of Christmas

SENIOR NEWS

(Continued from page 27)

ciate seeing where your travels are taking you. Cards will be incorporated into the curriculum at the school and will be used in a joint program in April. Please take a minute and send a card to Joan Pederson at the school, 400 S. Main St.

Winter Weather Reminder: Just a reminder that in the event of inclement weather, the senior center follows the Andover public school closings. If the schools are closed, there will not be any lunch, programs, classes or activities at the center that day. If the schools are open, the center is also open.

Holiday greetings: The senior center sends holiday greetings to our members and friends.

In Memoriam

George Robert Vinal Sr.
5/20/33 - 12/23/99

You are now at Peace, but you've left behind broken hearts.

I look at your sons face and I see you. I watch his gentle way and I remember you. His good and kind heart is part of you. God keep us close and always know how much we loved you.

Sadly missed by:
Florence, Georgie Jr., Victoria & Alex too

Note:
For those caring people who would like to extend their condolences or share a memory of George with our son. It's never too late. The address at Boston University is:
G.R. Vinal Jr., 580 Commonwealth Ave., Apt. 30, Boston, MA 02215 or home.
Vinal Family c/o Candle Light Inne, 30 Katharine Lee Bates Road,
Falmouth, Cape Cod, MA 02540.
Our heartfelt thank you.

Business

Business briefs...

Wild Oats sows partnership

The Breast Care Center at Holy Family Hospital will benefit from Wild Oats "Five Percent Day" on Thursday, Dec. 21.

Five percent of the day's receipts will go to the center.

Clinicians from the center, which is staffed by Andover surgeons, will be available to answer questions and provide information regarding mammography and other services.

After a recent five-percent day, Wild Oats gave $1,247.30 to the Mass. Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, said a store employee.

Highway designer finds road to being associate

Vanasse Hangen Brustlin Inc. (VHB), an engineering, planning and applied sciences firm that provides integrated transportation, land-development and environmental services, has promoted Andover resident Loretta Girard Doughty to associate.

"Girard Doughty was recognized for her proven leadership ability, demonstrated client service and commitment to VHB," said a company press release.

Loretta Girard Doughty

Girard Doughty has been with VHB since 1994 and serves as senior project manager and supervisor for the firm's Boston Structural Engineering Group. She has over 12 years experience in project management, highway and bridge design, and integrated multi-discipline design assignments. She currently serves as deputy project manager for the team that is designing connections from Leverett Circle Storrow Drive to Interstate-93 North and South, for Boston's Central Artery Tunnel project.

In addition, she is structural manager in the design and rehabilitation of more than 45 bridges in the $300 million MBTA New Bedford Fall River Commuter Rail Extension Project.

Girard Doughty lives in Andover with her husband, James Doughty.

Realtor exchanges ideas

Local realtor Lillian Montalto was a guest and participant at the 13th annual Superstar Idea Exchange Meeting in San Francisco, Calif. The event is held in conjunction with the 2000 National Association of Realtors annual convention and trade show.

In order to attend, participants must have closed sales on a minimum of 100 units in one calendar year.

Business park owner sees high-tech future

By Neil Fater

The company that purchased New England Business Park has broken ground on a new building at the River Road area complex, and plans to turn it and three existing buildings into offices for the high-tech industry.

ELV Associates in Boston bought the business park near Wyndham Hotel on Sept 27. The firm represents a British and a German family and is looking for "the ultimate exit strategy" in other words, a relatively quick profit in the real-estate market, says Scott Jenkins, ELV representative.

Its strategy involves attracting high-tech companies into its facilities as they are built and as leases expire.

Despite the dips in the Nasdaq, Jenkins is confident that high-tech companies are desperate for new office space. "Over the next five years you'd probably see a number of tenancies expiring each year," says Jenkins. "We've seen tremendous demand from the technology sector, particularly networking, wireless technology, switch devices. The demand is outstripping the supply and has been for many years now."

Andover planning director Steve Colyer agrees.

"If I talk to my friends up at Brickstone, they say the minute they get a square foot available they can fill it," says Colyer.

ELV Associates owns 300,000 square feet of occupied office space in Tewksbury, and it says it also knows some of those business tenants would like to expand, potentially into Andover.

"We've got a handful of tenants with nowhere to grow," says Jenkins. "It's partially driven by our own occupancy."

Architects' rendering

Eye to the future — Confident that technology companies will continue to grow and want to move to the Andover area, ELV Associates plans to construct another building at New England Business Park, in the River Road area.

ELV Associates plans to charge about $30 to $32 per square foot for its full-service Andover space, which is about what it charges in Tewksbury, according to Jenkins. He says rental rate around the Interstate 495 belt are converging, regardless of the town.

There are three mid-range office buildings at the New England Business Park site currently, and a small day-care center, Bright Horizons.

"Those buildings were built about 10 years ago and built into a different market," says Jenkins.

ELV plans to build a new, 190,000 square-foot office building along the Merrimack River, he says.

Jenkins expects one of the existing buildings to become a one-tenant structure, possibly to house Physical Sciences, a company already renting about 55,000 square feet, he says.

Another building would continue to house several tenants for the foreseeable future, while the new building would house six to eight tenants.

"The new building will be the signature building in the park and you (can) see that in the rendering (produced by architects). It's a Class A building with a beautiful foyer," he says. "It's very much a building that the market wants to see today.

"The river view will be captured primarily by the new building," continues Jenkins. "Together with the four-story building, the view will be quite dramatic."

Andover designer gets time on the tube

Home and Garden Television has announced that it will air a segment on Saturday, Dec. 30 at 10:30 p.m. featuring Andover interior designer Sue Adams.

Adams will narrate as HGTV presents her work on the master bedroom and bath at Lowell's Nesmith House. The Nesmith House was a decorator's show house in 1994. It is owned by the Middlesex Community College Foundation and is maintained as a function facility and housing option for visiting guests.

Sue Adams

Adams, representing her own design firm, Sue Adams Interiors, will explain her creative process and answer questions presented by the show's hostess on such areas of design as space, materials, bathroom fixtures, and lighting. HGTV will also feature Adams in two other areas of expertise, ceiling architecture and window treatments, to be aired at later dates.

Andover residents can tune in to channel 32 for Home and Garden Television.

Sue Adams bathroom designs will be among the topics on a Saturday segment on Home and Garden Television.

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Professional Profile

Bill Cox, registered investment advisor

Cox Capital Management

"Today most people who are thinking of investing are looking at price first and the company second. I take it the other way around," says Bill Cox, owner of **Cox Capital Management**. "I spend a lot of time meeting with corporate executives, scrutinizing their quarterly and annual financials, and understanding their management practices before I buy."

Cox Capital Management is a registered investment advisory firm specializing in individual and institutional money management. The company provides custom portfolio management and mutual fund investment services to individuals as well as employee retirement plans, corporate pension plans, and charitable foundation management to institutional accounts.

"The investment process involves hard work and a tremendous amount of due diligence," says Cox, who for example in the last month alone met with ten companies in an attempt to uncover investment ideas. "You can't just sit around your computer screen, punch a few buttons, and think you're adding value to your clients," Cox states.

A veteran in the industry, Cox's background includes management positions at Drexel Burnham Lambert, CIBC Wood Gundy, and Royal Bank of Canada's Dominion Securities. He earned his MBA at Northeastern University, and has an undergraduate degree in finance from UMass. His professional affiliations include the Petroleum Analysts of Boston, Greater Lowell Chamber of Commerce, and Merrimack Valley Estate Planning Council.

For more information on **Cox Capital Management**, visit www.coxcapitalmgt.com. To schedule a portfolio review or to discuss your money management needs, call (978) 470-1560.

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BUSINESS

Simplified tax for small businesses

In a step to simplify a major area of tax administration, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) will end monthly tax-deposit requirements for about one million small businesses.

Beginning Jan. 1, many small businesses will be allowed to make employment tax payments on a quarterly basis, rather than monthly, according to the IRS. Under the new rules, the IRS will allow businesses to make payments every three months if they have less than $2,500 in quarterly employment taxes. It replaces the current standard, which allows quarterly payments only if businesses have less than $1,000 in quarterly employment taxes.

New bank service

The Savings Bank has announced the opening of a New England Fiduciary and Investment Management office at its Andover branch at 84 Main St.

New England Fiduciary and Investment Management (NEFIM) is the bank's investment-management and personal-trust division. In its new location, NEFIM will provide Andover individuals, families and charitable organizations with advice and management.

"Adding the bank's investment and trust services at our Andover location means more convenience for our clients, and for others seeking professional guidance in preparing for retirement or planning for their family's financial security," said president and chief executive officer Brian McCoubrey.

Long-time Andover resident,Cornelius J. (Neal) McGovern, Jr., vice president, will direct the activities of the new Andover office.

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OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF APPEALS
NOTICE OF HEARING

A public hearing will be held at MEMORIAL HALL LIBRARY, SECOND FLOOR in MEMORIAL HALL, ELM SQUARE, ANDOVER on THURSDAY, January 4, 2001 at 7:00 P.M. on the petition of Francis E. Donohue, 35 River Rd., Andover, MA for a modification of Decision No. 1158, and for a variance from the requirements of Andover Zoning By-Law, Article VIII to allow access to industrial land through a residential district on a parcel located in both Single Residence C and Industrial A Districts

Premises affected are located at 35 River Road, Andover, MA in a Single Residence C and an Industrial A District and are shown on Assessor's Map 126 as Lot 6.

DANIEL S. CASPER, CHAIRMAN
BOARD OF APPEALS
December 21 & 28, 2000

TOWN OF ANDOVER
PLANNING BOARD

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be convened on Tuesday, January 9, 2001, at 9:00 p.m., in the Third Floor Conference Room, Town Office Building, Bartlet Street, on an application made by Angelo Petrosino for Special Permit for Earth Movement for a proposed 10-lot Definitive Subdivision Plan entitled "Pine Forest Park" on property owned by the applicant, located Southeasterly of Route 125 at the North Reading line, more specifically identified as Assessors' Map 104, Parcel 3. The application may be examined in the Planning Department between the hours of 8:30 a.m., and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

ANDOVER PLANNING BOARD
Michael H. Miller, Esq., Chairman
December 21, & 28, 2000

TOWN OF ANDOVER
PLANNING BOARD

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be convened on Tuesday, January 9, 2001, at 9:00 p.m., in the Third Floor Conference Room, Town Office Building, Bartlet Street, on an application made by Angelo Petrosino for Special Permit to Cluster for a proposed 10-lot Definitive Subdivision Plan entitled "Pine Forest Park" on property owned by the applicant, located Southeasterly of Route 125 at the North Reading line, more specifically identified as Assessors' Map 104, Parcel 3. The application may be examined in the Planning Department between the hours of 8:30 a.m., and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

ANDOVER PLANNING BOARD
Michael H. Miller, Esq., Chairman
December 21, & 28, 2000

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Durga Z. Singh and Pushpa Singh a/k/a Puspha Singh to OceanMark Bank, dated June 7, 1996 and recorded with the Essex County (Northern District) Registry of Deeds at Book 4521, Page 211, of which mortgage Bankers Trust Company of California, N.A., as Trustee under that certain Pooling and Servicing Agreement dated as of August 1, 1996, for Southern Pacific Secured Assets Corp., Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 1996-3 is the present holder by assignment, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 11.00 a.m. on January 12, 2001, on the mortgaged premises located at 3 Germano Way a/k/a 3 Germano Circle a/k/a 3 Germano Avenue, Andover, Essex County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage.

TO WIT,

A certain parcel of land and the buildings thereon, on Germano Circle, Andover, Massachusetts, being shown as Lots 12A and 11B on a plan entitled "Plan of Land, David Drive, Andover, Mass. Drawn for J.C.J. Realty Trust, June 18, 1987, Scale 1" = 40', Armand E. Provost, Jr. Registered Land Surveyor" recorded at Essex North District Registry of Deeds at Plan #10768

Said Premises are bounded and described as follows:

Southwesterly in various courses, 46.91 feet, 111.70 feet and 96.90 feet, by Germano Circle.

Northeasterly 125.72 feet by Lots 12B and 11A.

Northerly 87.53 feet, by Lot 11A.

Northeasterly 33.70 feet, by land now or formerly of Osgood, Inc

Westerly 166.82 feet, by land now or formerly of Osgood, Inc.

Lots 12B and 11B are correctly identified on the above referenced plan, but the lot designations are reversed on the "detail" sketch on said plan. See the affidavit of Armand E. Provost, jr., Registered Land Surveyor, recorded with the Essex North Registry of Deeds in Book 2545, Page 226

For mortgagors' title see deed recorded with Essex County (Northern District) Registry of Deeds in Book 3211, Page 53

These premises will be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed

TERMS OF SALE:

A deposit of Ten Thousand ($10,000.00) Dollars by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at Harmon Law Offices, P.C., 150 California Street, Newton, Massachusetts 02458, or by mail to P.O. Box 610389, Newton Highlands, Massachusetts 02461-0389, within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication.

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.

BANKERS TRUST COMPANY OF CALIFORNIA, N.A., AS TRUSTEE UNDER THAT CERTAIN POOLING AND SERVICING AGREEMENT DATED AS OF AUGUST 1, 1996, FOR SOUTHERN PACIFIC SECURED ASSETS CORP., MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 1996-3
Present holder of said mortgage

By its Attorneys,
HARMON LAW OFFICES, P.C.
Susan M. Ciccanesi, Esquire
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Newton, MA 02458
(617)558-0500
December 21 & 28, 2000
January 4, 2001

TOWN OF ANDOVER
BOARD OF HEALTH

NOTICE OF:
PHASE IV - FINAL INSPECTION REPORT ADDENDUM (12/2000)

Reichhold, Inc. Site
77 Lowell Junction Road, Andover, MA
DEP RELEASE TRACKING NUMBER: 3-0208

A Phase IV - Final Inspection Report Addendum has been prepared for the above site and is available for public review. Response Actions are being conducted at the site in accordance with the Massachusetts Cintingency Plan, 310 CMR 40.0000. A copy of this document and all other public records and reports concerning this site are available at:

1. The Department of Community Development & Planning Office, Health Division, Town Offices, Bartlett St., Andover, MA.

2. The Andover Memorial Hall Library; Reference Desk

3. Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, North East Regional Office, 205 Lowell Street Wilmington, MA 01887

Any questions regarding this submittal or the response actions being conducted at the site should be directed to:

John D. Rendall, P.E., L.S.P.
Project Manager
CH2M HILL
25 New Chardon Street, 5th Floor
Boston, MA 02114
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John Oldham
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Reichold, Inc
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By: Douglas M. Dunbar, D.D.S.
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Sports

Tildsley hits the century mark for wins; boys hoop wins 2

By Rick Harrison

Andover High girls varsity basketball coach Jim Tildsley picked up career win No. 100 with the Lady Warriors, while the AHS boys hoop team posted two victories, hockey split two games and girls track opened its 2000-01 season with a resounding triumph to highlight pre-holiday sports action.

INDOOR TRACK

Junior Natasha Camilo and senior Capt. Emily Pfeil earned a first and second place finish each, while Camilo also ran a leg on the victorious 4x400 relay, as the Andover High girls indoor track team opened the season with a 52-34 Merrimack Valley Conference crossover win against Tewksbury at the Andover High Field House.

The AHS boys also faced Tewksbury in their first meet, dropping a controversial 43-42 decision which is under protest by Golden Warriors' head coach Art Iworsley.

Schedule

Both Andover teams will trek to Roxbury this Saturday to participate in the annual Reggie Lewis Track Center Winter Festival.

The next dual meet for the AHS girls is Jan. 3 against Notre Dame Academy of Tyngsboro, while the boys are off until Methuen visits on Jan. 10.

Andover girls 52
Tewksbury 34

The Lady Warriors, defending MVC Division 1 co-champs, placed first in six of the 10 events and broke the meet open by sweeping the top three places in both the high jump and shot put.

Natasha Camilo's big day included a first in the high jump (4'10"), second in the 600 run (1:39.4) and a strong leg on the mile relay which was completed by Janelle Larose, Joan Moffitt and anchor Sheena Patel (4:46.3).

Emily Pfeil pounded out a victory in the mile (5:51.5) and placed second in the high jump (4'8").

Sophomore Becca Fink also cleared 4'8" to complete the sweep of the high jump, while placing 1-2-3 in the shot put were Capt. Ogechi Ibe (35'2 1/2"), senior Robin Young (33'8 1/2") and junior Betsy Miller (29'2 3/4").

Other individual winners for AHS were Patel in the 50-yard hurdles (7.7) and junior two-miler Laura O'Connell (12:35.3).

"The sweeps of the shot put and high jump were keys to the win," said coach Iworsley. "O'Connell's two-mile time was a personal best and Ogechi's throw in the shot put was a personal best indoors."

Other runners-up for the locals were Carolyn Berberian (50 dash, 6.9) and sophomore Allison Shannon (300 dash, 44.0).

Placing third for the winners were senior hurdler and Capt. Stephanie Pierce (8.0), Lindsay Durkin (1000 run, 3:08.7), sophomore miler Lauren Woo (6:06.2) and senior two-miler Caitlin Woo (13:17.1).

* * *

The Andover coaches will select a Most Valuable Performer at each dual meet this season, and the first girls' MVP is Laura O'Connell for her strong effort in the deuce.

Tewksbury 43
Andover boys 42

The meet was placed under protest after an official miscounted the number of laps Andover freshman Ryan Durkin had run in the mile.

Durkin, told he had one lap left when he actually had two, stopped running too soon because of the official's error.

"Ryan was walking around with his hands on his knees, catching his breath, when the official finally realized his mistake and told Ryan he had another lap to run," explained coach Iworsley.

"By the time he jumped back in the race Ryan was in fourth place, well behind the third runner (final scoring position) from Tewksbury."

This was the same kid Durkin was 30 yards ahead of when he stopped running. Durkin's desperation final-lap sprint was almost good enough to still take third — but he eventually finished eight yards behind.

Had he not stopped and placed third, the score would have been reversed with Andover winning the meet, 43-42.

"I don't feel our kids should lose a meet on an official's mistake," said Iworsley. "I would even settle for a tie but I don't think a loss under those circumstances is fair."

Iworsley submitted a written protest to MVC track commissioner Carmen Iannicelli and is awaiting his ruling.

* * *

The Golden Warriors placed first in four events during the meet, senior Capt. Kyle Miller winning the 50 hurdles (6.9 seconds), senior Capt. Shahriar Ghandchi the 600 run (1:23.4) and senior distance ace Tim Galebach the mile (4:40.4).

AHS also won the 4x400 relay with Miller, Mike Ring, Shawn Gaines and anchorman Ghandchi (3:52.2).

Placing second for the locals were junior sprinter Bruce Brown (50 dash, 5.9), Gaines (300 dash, 36.4), Ring (1000 run, 2:30.9), sophomore two-miler Phil Shaw (10:24.8), junior high jumper Jason Crabb (5'3") and shot putter John Gardner (39'5 1/2").

In an ironic twist, the shot put toss was won by Tewksbury's Bob Ullo (40'7") who used to live in Andover.

Completing the AHS scorers with thirds were Crabb (50 dash, 6.0), Mike Donahue (300 dash, 37.8), sophomore Taylor Hender (1000 run, 2:44.3) and two-miler Brendan Ahern (10:33.1).

"The times by Miller in the hurdles, Gaines from the outside lane in the 300 and Ghandchi in the 600 were excellent for a season-opening meet," said Iworsley.

* * *

The Andover coaches will select a Most Valuable Performer at each dual meet this season, and the first boys MVP is Shahriar Ghandchi for his strong effort in the 600.

ICE HOCKEY

Senior left wing Dennis Moran scored one goal and helped set up four others, while sophomore center Mike Corey scored twice, as the Andover High varsity hockey team stung Merrimack Valley/Dual County League Division 2 rival Lincoln-Sudbury, 6-1, in action at the New England Sports Center in Marlboro.

The convincing victory followed a season-opening 7-1 setback to a swift and physical Tewksbury High team.

Coach Bill Cullen's Golden Warriors carried a 1-1 record into last night's home opener against defending MV/DCL Division 2 champ Boston Latin at the Merrimack Valley Forum.

Schedule

AHS returns to action next Tuesday and Wednesday at the inaugural Wakefield Christmas Tournament, then takes a week off before hosting MV/DCL Division 2 rival Haverhill (2-0) on Jan. 3 at the Forum (6 p.m.).

Andover 6
Lincoln-Sudbury 1

The Golden Warriors spotted L-S a 1-0 first-period lead, falling behind just four minutes into the game, and then took control with three quick goals in the final six minutes of the second period.

"After we fell behind 1-0 it seemed like an eternity before we got on the board," said coach Cullen. "Once we did it loosened everyone up."

Junior All-Conference defenseman Tim LeGrow tied the game at 9:25 of the middle period, firing home a shot from the point with assists to Dennis Moran and Mike Corey.

Moran scored the eventual game-winner with a superb unassisted, shorthanded effort 84 seconds later (10:49).

"Dennis literally had a Lincoln-Sudbury player draped on his back when he faked the goalie and scored," said Cullen.

Plays like that can spark a team.

With four seconds left in the period Moran fed linemate Corey at center ice for a breakaway against L-S netminder Mike Patton. Corey fired a shot and the red light flashed a split second before the horn sounded.

Corey's dramatic goal at 14:59.5 appeared to take much of the fight out of L-S.

AHS sophomore right wing Steve Johnson swept in a backhander from the slot at 4:04 of the final period. Moran and junior defenseman George Lewis assisted on the goal which boosted the lead to 4-1.

Late goals were scored 48 seconds apart by senior right wing Dustin Shea (13:01) and Corey (13:49).

Shea took a breakaway pass from senior center and linemate Chris Cataldo, while Corey emerged from a scramble in front with the assist to Moran.

Andover outshot L-S by a wide 34-19 margin and used three goaltenders in the game.

Junior Tilton Academy transfer Brian Kaminski played the first four minutes after scheduled starter Mike Thompson had equipment problems during the pre-game warmups.

"Kaminski came into the game unexpectedly and there is no way he could be faulted on their goal," said Cullen.

Toronto transfer Thompson played approximately 38 minutes and then freshman Torin Traynor finished up.

L-S goaltender Patton finished with 28 saves.

Tewksbury 7
Andover 1

The Golden Warriors faced a Division 1 team in the opener and did not fare well, being outshot 43-19 and falling behind 7-0 before averting the shutout with a late third-period goal.

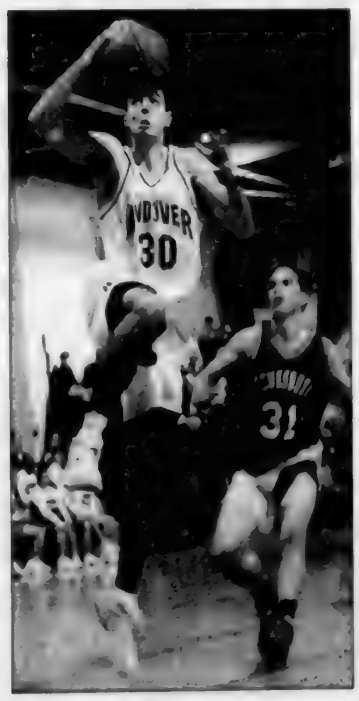
"Tewksbury whacked us," said coach Cullen. "They played a very physical game and it worked."

Senior left wing Dennis Moran was the AHS marksman with only 2:40 left in the game. John Stearns collected the assist.

Busy senior goaltender Brandan Gatlin made 36 saves.

Kevin Leonard led six Tewksbury players into the goalscoring column

(Continued on page 34)



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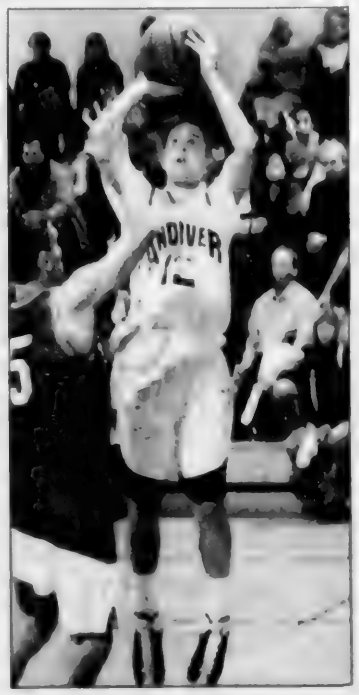

Chris Vetrano

Photos by Tim Jean

Coach Dave Fazio makes a point.

Mike Byrne

AHS ROUNDUP

with two.

Rob Fitzmaurice, Peter Shelgi (power play) and Rich Enos had a goal and assist each while All-Conference defenseman Scott Favreau and Steve Dayes passed out three assists each for the winners.

The Redmen scored their first three goals in the opening four minutes of the game to establish a quick early lead.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Coach Jim Tildsley reached the 100-win milestone in only his 117th game as Andover High girls varsity basketball coach, the Lady Warriors nailing down victories No. 99 and 100 recently against Merrimack Valley Conference rivals Chelmsford (68-28) and Tewksbury (63-52).

The Lady Warriors returned to action last night after *Townsman* presstime, with a rugged non-league test against likewise-undefeated Division 1 South powerhouse Braintree (3-0).

The Lady Wamps handed Andover one of its two regular season defeats last year, (69-38), in the MediaOne Tournament third-place consolation game.

"Braintree is our first big test," said Tildsley. "That's when we find out where we stand."

Schedule

AHS is back on the court one week from tonight (Dec. 28) when it opens defense of its Greater Lawrence Christmas Tournament championship.

North Andover, Methuen and Salem, N.H. complete the field of the four-team tourney which Andover has won four of the last five years.

Andover 68
Chelmsford 28

The Lions, missing two of last year's starters (Kristen Dowling, Danielle Incropera), were simply no match for Andover as the locals raced to a 37-14 halftime lead.

"We came out strong again tonight," said coach Tildsley. "Our 2-2-1 has been very effective and we (coaches) are extremely happy with how our players are going after the ball on defense. We forced Chelmsford into four clock violations in the first half."

AHS, which jumped out to a quick 15-2 lead, had three players in double figures for the game as Jenny Muller netted 19 points, Capt. Lisa Tisbert 15 and freshman Ashley McLaughlin 14.

Ball hawk Muller added nine steals and three assists. Tisbert had six steals, three assists and McLaughlin six rebounds, three steals and two assists.

Megan Pinksten contributed six points, five boards, three assists and sophomore forward Samantha Hughes six points, six rebounds.

Mary Fish and Shawna Foley added three points each. Shannon Sweeney two and Karen Whelan notched a free throw.

Sweeney led all glass-cleaners with 11 rebounds. Whelan had four and Fish passed out four assists.

Katie Kramer continued her hustling play with six assists and three steals.

"Kelly McLaughlin is also doing a terrific job as our seventh player," said Tildsley. "She's usually second off the bench and she's playing excellent defense."

Kendall Ruzzo was the bright spot for Chelmsford with a team-high 10 points in the Lions' season opener.

Andover 63
Tewksbury 52

The Lady Warriors prevailed Tuesday night in a game punctuated by 47 personal fouls and slowed to a crawl by 75 free throws.

It was not as close as the final score indicates, Andover taking a 15-point halftime lead (37-22) and building the difference as high as 24 points in the second half.

"The fouls made it an ugly game," said coach Tildsley. "We could never get any kind of momentum going because of all the whistles."

Neither team did itself proud at the free throw line, AHS converting only 19-of-34 foul shots and Tewksbury hitting just 23-of-41.

Amazingly, despite all the stoppages, not one player on either side fouled out.

"We did not come out of the gate ready to play," said Tildsley, whose team fell behind 7-1 early in its first road game of the season.

However it wasn't long before Andover, winners of 18 straight conference games the past two years, took the lead and established control.

"That is one terrific basketball team," marveled Tewksbury coach Pat McAndrews. "They can do it all."

Jenny Muller led three Lady Warriors into double figures with 14 points, and she also contributed five assists and three steals.

Megan Pinksten added a double-double with 13 points, 11 rebounds and three steals, while Lisa Tisbert had 10 points, four steals and three assists.

Ashley McLaughlin produced eight points, seven boards and two assists, while Shannon Sweeney contributed seven points, 11 rebounds, three assists and two steals.

Wrapping up the attack were Samantha Hughes with four points, Mary Fish three on a trifecta, Shawna Foley two and defensive specialist Katie Kramer two points, four steals.

Keeping things respectable for Tewksbury (1-2) were Rachel Burke with 12 points, Caitlin O'Brien 10 points, seven rebounds and Jess Breslin nine points.

ANDOVER SCORING

BOYS BASKETBALL
(3 games)

	FG	FT	Pts
Chris Vetrano	20	5	53
Kevin Shepard	13	18	45
Bruno Zanotti	14	7	37
Chris Caverly	10	3	23
Geordie Miliotis	6	4	16
Andy Carter	4	1	9
Pat Stockwood	2	2	7
Anthony Silva	2	0	4
Chris Brouillard	1	1	3
Matt Withington	1	0	2

3-pointers: Chris Vetrano 8; Bruno Zanotti 2; Kevin Shepard 1; Pat Stockwood 1.

GIRLS BASKETBALL
(3 games)

	FG	FT	Pts
Jenny Muller	20	7	49
Lisa Tisbert	12	8	38
Ashley McLaughlin	9	10	30
Megan Pinksten	9	5	23
Shannon Sweeney	7	5	19
Samantha Hughes	7	0	14
Mary Fish	2	0	6
Shawna Foley	2	1	5
Karen Whelan	1	1	3
Katie Kramer	1	0	2

3-pointers: Lisa Tisbert 6; Ashley McLaughlin 2; Jenny Muller 2; Mary Fish 2.

ICE HOCKEY
(2 games)

	G	A	Pts.
Dennis Moran	2	4	6
Mike Corey	2	1	3
Steve Johnson	1	0	1
Tim LeGrow	1	0	1
Dustin Shea	1	0	1
Chris Cataldo	0	1	1
George Lewis	0	1	1
John Stearns	0	1	1

BOYS BASKETBALL

Andover, bouncing back from a season-opening loss to Dracut, rode the strong play of Capt. Kevin Shepard, freshman sniper Chris Vetrano and Paraguay exchange student Bruno Zanotti to Merrimack Valley Conference wins over Chelmsford (66-48) and Tewksbury (79-55).

In both games the Golden Warriors used outstanding second-half performances to key the victory, outscoring Chelmsford 38-17 and Tewksbury 44-24 in the final 16 minutes.

Schedule

AHS (2-1) opens play Saturday in the week-long Greater Lawrence Christmas Tournament at the North Andover High Field House, facing archrival Central Catholic in a quarterfinal round game which taps off at 2 p.m.

The locals return to MVC play Jan. 2 when they host Lawrence at the Dunn Gym (7:30 p.m.).

Andover 66
Chelmsford 48

The Golden Warriors outscored turnover-plagued host Chelmsford 30-12 in the final 10 minutes of the game on the way to the MVC crossover win.

The Lions came out of the seesaw first half with a three-point 31-28 lead, and it was tied 36-36 early in the second half before Andover's hustling defense forced 13 turnovers to key the second-half surge.

Senior captain and Boston College-bound guard Kevin Shepard once again led the charge with 21 points and five steals.

Freshman point-guard Chris Vetrano was close behind with 19 points in just his second varsity game, and senior forward Chris Caverly made it three in double figures with 11 points.

Bruno Zanotti pumped through eight points, Geordie Miliotis five and Andy Carter contributed a field goal.

Scott Meier played a fine all-around game for the Lions with 17 points, eight rebounds and seven assists.

Phil Demeris contributed 11 points, 12 boards and James Barry netted 10 points.

Andover 79
Tewksbury 55

Chris Vetrano and Bruno Zanotti sparked the victory by combining for 42 points.

Vetrano was game-high marksman with 22 points, hitting four threes, while the 6'5" Zanotti had his most assertive effort to date with 20 points, 11 rebounds and seven blocked shots.

"He (Zanotti) was the difference in the game," said Tewksbury coach Jim Sullivan. "He changed everything inside by blocking a ton of shots and adjusting many others. Our players were definitely aware of his presence in the key."

Chris Caverly also hit double digits with 10 points, while Andy Carter netted seven, Geordie Miliotis six, Kevin Shepard five and Chris Brouillard three.

Contributing a field goal each were Anthony Silva and Matt Withington, while Pat Stockwood nailed a pair of free throws.

Dan Elliman and freshman Mike Rocco did the bulk of the damage for Tewksbury (0-2) with 17 and 13 points respectively.

After inching ahead 35-31 at halftime of its home opener, the Golden Warriors blew the game open in the second half.

Basketball recognition

Baystate Financial Services of Andover will once again sponsor awards to outstanding players on the Andover High boys and girls varsity basketball teams throughout the 2000-01 season.

Coaches Jim Tildsley (girls) and Dave Fazio (boys) will nominate the players and a trophy will be awarded to those players at regular points throughout the season. Players selected will have made notable contributions to the success of the team. Called the "Baystate Financial Services Varsity Basketball Player of the Fortnight," the award will be given to a girl and boy player on alternate weeks.

According to BFS managing principal Ronald R. Hall, the first winners will be announced immediately following next week's Christmas Tournaments.

TOWN OF ANDOVER
PLANNING BOARD

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be convened on Tuesday, January 9, 2001, at 9:00 p.m., in the Third Floor Conference Room, Town Office Building, Bartlet Street, on an application made by Angelo Petrosino for a 10-lot Definitive Subdivision Plan entitled "Pine Forest Park" on property owned by the applicant, located Southeasterly of Route 125 at the North Reading line, more specifically identified as Assessors' Map 104, Parcel 3. The application may be examined in the Planning Department between the hours of 8:30 a.m., and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

ANDOVER PLANNING BOARD
Michael H. Miller, Esq., Chairman

December 21, & 28, 2000

TOWN OF ANDOVER
PLANNING BOARD

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be convened on Tuesday, January 9, 2001, at 8:30 p.m., in the Third Floor Conference Room, Town Office Building, Bartlet Street, on an application submitted by the New Boston Fund, Inc., for a Site Plan Special Permit to allow for the construction of a new 100,000 square foot office building located at 5 Campanelli Drive, more specifically identified as Assessors Map 142, Lot #6. The application may be examined in the Planning Department between the hours of 8.30 a.m., and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

THE ANDOVER PLANNING BOARD
Michael H. Miller, Esq., Chairman

December 21 & 28, 2000

OFFICE OF THE
BOARD OF APPEALS
NOTICE OF HEARING

A public hearing will be held at MEMORIAL HALL LIBRARY, SECOND FLOOR in MEMORIAL HALL, ELM SQUARE, ANDOVER on THURSDAY, January 4, 2001 at 7:00 P.M. on the petition of Robert & Donna Cardillo, 7 Archer Lane, Andover, MA for a variance from the requirements of the Andover Zoning By-Law, Article VIII, Section V.A. and/or for a special permit under Article VIII, Section VII.A. 1 to allow the construction of additions and alterations to a non-conforming single family residence that will not meet dimensional requirements.

Premises affected are located at 7 Archer Lane, Andover, MA in a Single Residence C District; and are shown on Assessor's Map 45 as Lot 77.

DANIEL S. CASPER, CHAIRMAN
BOARD OF APPEALS

December 21 & 28, 2000

OFFICE OF THE
BOARD OF APPEALS
NOTICE OF HEARING

A public hearing will be held at MEMORIAL HALL LIBRARY, SECOND FLOOR in MEMORIAL HALL, ELM SQUARE, ANDOVER on THURSDAY, January 4, 2001 at 7:00 P.M. on the petition of Richard Cataldo, 2 Clover Circle, Andover, MA for a variance from the requirements of the Andover Zoning By-Law, Article VIII, Section V.A to allow the construction of a sewer pumping station that will not meet dimensional requirements.

Premises affected are located at 2 Clover Circle, Andover, MA in a Single Residence C and an Industrial A District; and are shown on Assessor's Map 101 as Lot 3.

DANIEL S. CASPER, CHAIRMAN
BOARD OF APPEALS

December 21 & 28, 2000

OFFICE OF THE
BOARD OF APPEALS
NOTICE OF HEARING

A public hearing will be held at MEMORIAL HALL LIBRARY, SECOND FLOOR in MEMORIAL HALL, ELM SQUARE, ANDOVER on THURSDAY, January 4, 2001 at 7:00 P.M. on the petition of Susan Zeytoonian, 76 North St., Andover, MA for a variance from the requirements of the Andover Zoning By-Law, Article VIII, Section V.A. and/or for a special permit under Article VIII, Section VII.A.1 to add a farmer's porch with partial screening that will not meet dimensional requirements.

Premises affected are located at 76 North Street, Andover, MA in a Single Residence C District; and are shown on Assessor's Map 128 as Lot 8.

DANIEL S. CASPER, CHAIRMAN
BOARD OF APPEALS

December 21 & 28, 2000

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF APPEALS
NOTICE OF HEARING

A public hearing will be held at MEMORIAL HALL LIBRARY, SECOND FLOOR in MEMORIAL HALL, ELM SQUARE, ANDOVER on THURSDAY, January 4, 2001 at 7:00 P.M. on the petition of Howard Meshnick & Lesley Roth, 11 Rolling Ridge Rd., Andover, MA for a variance from the requirements of the Andover Zoning By-Law, Article VIII, Section V.A. and/or for a special permit under Article VIII, Section VII.A.1 to allow additions and alterations to an existing residence and detached garage that will render the entire new structure non- conforming.

Premises affected are located at 11 Rolling Ridge Road, Andover, MA in a Single Residence B District; and are shown on Assessor's Map 108 as Lot 62.

DANIEL S. CASPER,
CHAIRMAN
BOARD OF APPEALS
December 21 & 28, 2000

Special Notices

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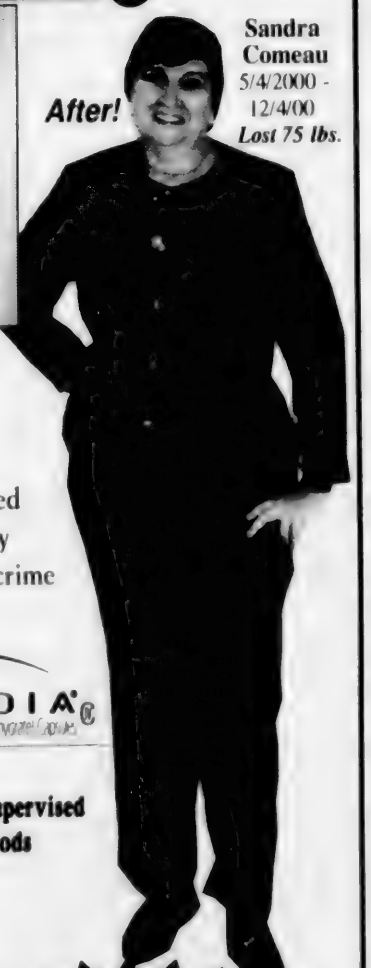
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Columbia is a family owned and operated business, serving the area since 1937. Joe and Sal Messina, along with Cookie Reilly, are dedicated to providing the best service for the lowest possible price, with total customer satisfaction a top priority.

Columbia Auto Seat Covers is still located in its original site at 165 South Broadway, South Lawrence. Hours are Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sat. 8 a.m. to noon. Telephone: (978) 683-2205.

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From left, Gary Kalip and BJ McElhiney

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From left: Marvin Davis, Director of Marketing and Sales of Cruise Planners; Lynn Korn, President; Carrie M. Crouch, Master Cruise Counselor and Franchise Owner; Michelle Fee, Co-Director of Marketing and Sales

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Carrie recently attended a convention on the inaugural cruise of the Explorer of the Seas, the newest ship of Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines. As always, she went out of her way to research all aspects of the Explorer so that she can make the most informed recommendations to her clients. She says the amenities on the Explorer are nothing short of amazing, with something for every age and interest, making it ideal for family vacations. The itinerary includes three days at sea, giving you the time you will need to enjoy everything this ship has to offer. You will be able to play basketball and tennis, go in-line skating, work out in a gymnasium with all the latest equipment, and much more. The fun continues into the evening with entertainment and music to complete your day.

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1998 PORCHE BOXSTER white with red interior, black top. Excellent condition, garaged winters. 18k miles. $42,500 Call **978-314-3100.**

1999 SAAB 93 convertible. Loaded with every option. 24k miles. $24,500. Call **617-513-5761.**

1999 BLUE DODGE Grand Caravan SE, front wheel drive, fully loaded. Power windows, power locks, two built-in child seats, roof rack, rear a/c control, alloy wheels, radio, tape and cd player. Seven year/100,000 mile warranty, nationwide roadside assistance. Asking $20,000. Call **978-470-3788.**

1999 LINCOLN TOWN CAR- Low mileage. Loaded. Full warranty, leather seats, CD player, sunroof, tinted windows, alarm system. Asking $27,500. Call nights. **978-681-9062.**

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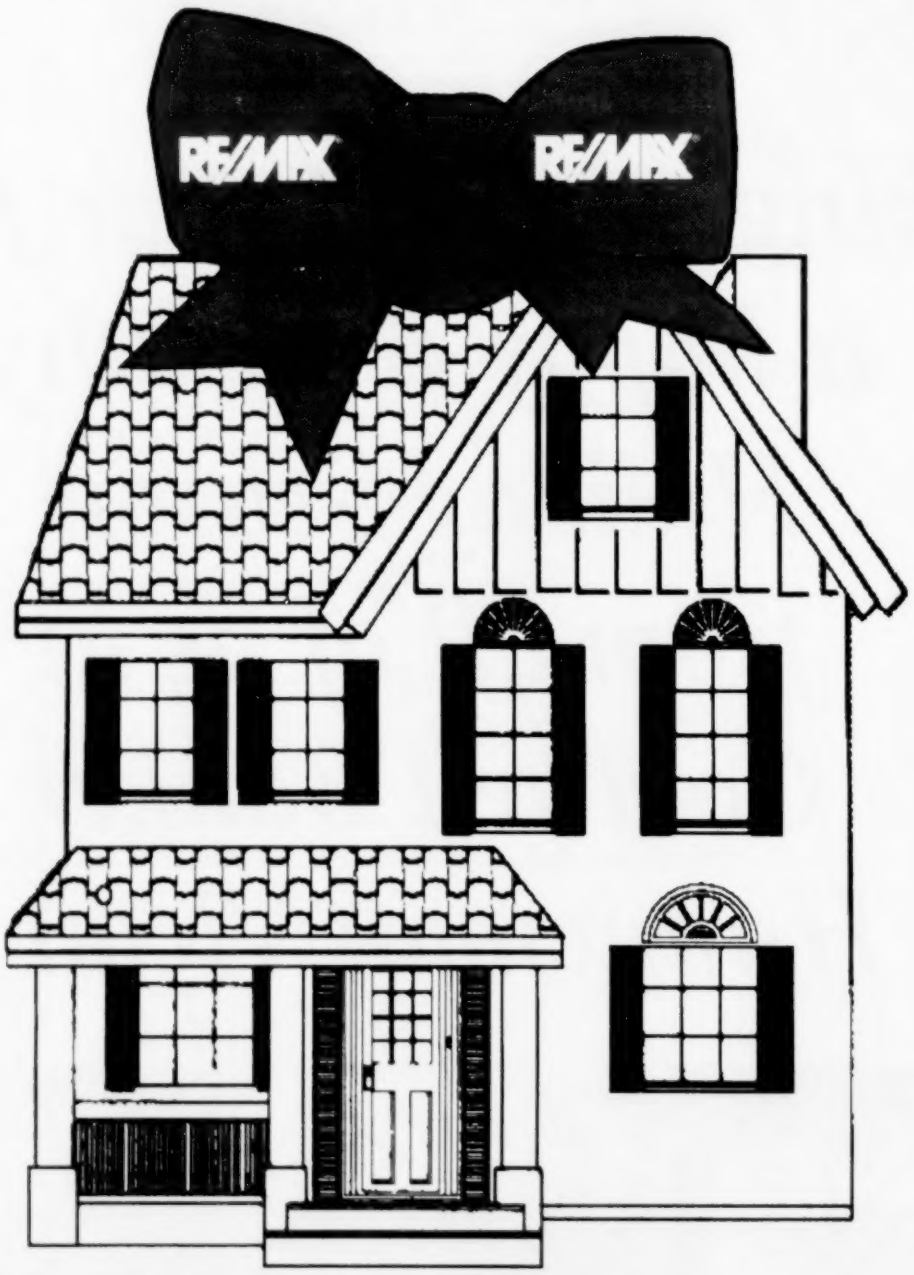

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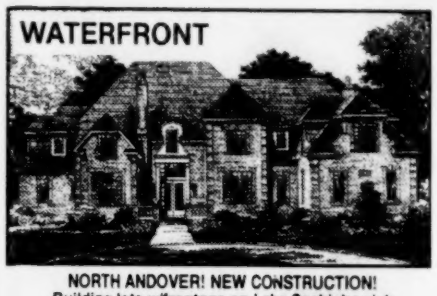

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Another new listing by Sue Papalia x130
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10 rooms ~ 4 bedrooms ~ 2.5 baths
1 plus acre ~ 3600 sq. ft. liv. space
3 car under ~ central air ~ sprinkler system
custom "craftsman" kitchen by Al Gervais
first floor office ~ sunroom
A listing by Chris Doherty x230 ~ $759,900
cdoherty@andoverliving.com

NORTH ANDOVER! BETTER THAN NEW!
Location, walk to Brooks School!
8 rooms ~ 4 bedrooms ~ 2.5 baths
acre+ ~ 2740+ GLA ~ spectacular views
2 car attached ~ central air
white kitchen w/gas fireplace ~ $439,900
A listing by Michael Sibulesky x247
msibulesky@andoverliving.com

ANDOVER! LOCATION & STYLE!
Super opportunity ~ In-town neighborhood
8 rm Colonial sited on acre lot
Newer "light filled" generous Great room
HW ~ built-ins ~ tiled mud rm off garage
A VRM #40 listing by Beth Poulo! x221
Seller to consider range $399K - $458,876
bpoulo@andoverliving.com

NORTH ANDOVER!
Beautifully maintained home in Library Area!
6 rooms ~ 3 bedrooms ~ full bsmt
move in condition ~ gleaming HW
oversized attached garage ~ updated kitchen
Heatilator FP liv ~ light & bright ~ $299,900
A listing by Jack Hewitt x228
jhewitt@andoverliving.com

NORTH ANDOVER! NEW LISTING!
Minutes from school, center, & library
Classic New England Cape ~ corner lot
7+ rms ~ 3/4 BR ~ 1.5 BA ~ 3 car htd gar
large eat-in kitchen w/cherry cabs
ist flr laundry & den w/cedar closet
A new listing by Amy Sebell x236 $339,900
amy@amysebell.com

TEWKSBURY ~ FIRST AD!
End unit at desirable Indian Ridge
5 rooms ~ 2 bedrooms ~ 1.5 baths
1275+ GLA ~ large garage under ~ deck
fireplace ~ central air ~ $193,500
Hurry, quick occupancy available!
A new listing by Sheryl Allen Doherty x216
sdoherty@andoverliving.com

ANDOVER! TERRIFIC HOME!
Charming Ranch on cul-de-sac
FP living room ~ din rm w/built-ins
light & bright throughout
7 rms ~ 3+ BR ~ cozy den
screened porch ~ pretty private yard
Another new listing by Joan Lewis x223 $339,900
jlewis@andoverliving.com

ANDOVER! WALK TO SCHOOL!
Location, Andover Country Club Area!
View of the Golf Course
Bonus play area on second floor
8+ rooms ~ 4 BR ~ 2 BA ~ $365,000
sunny white kitchen w/adjoining playroom
A listing by Joan Lewis x223
jlewis@andoverliving.com

ANDOVER, TAKE VIRTUAL TOUR #053
Totally updated contemp Colonial on acre
2 car detached garage has room w/sliders
fireplaced master & living rooms
new white kitchen ~ 2 new baths ~ 3 lg BR
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Seller to consider offers in range $329K - $378,876
A VRM #37 listing by The Moody Team x251

December 21, 2000

ANDOVER TOWNSMAN

Thursday

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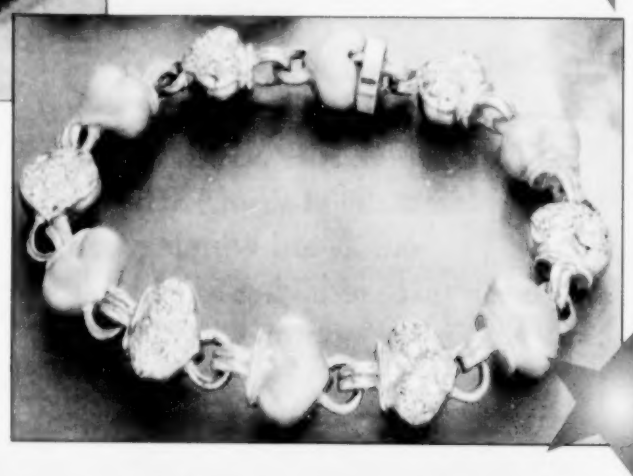

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